

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 675.—VOL. XXIV.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1854.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

## THE "SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL" CORRESPONDENCE.

THE extraordinary overtures made to the British Government by the Emperor Nicholas, in the spring of 1853, have been communicated to the world. In the intercourse of Sovereigns, it is probable that negotiations as important as these have often taken place, though it is rare, if not unprecedented, that the details have found their way to the public ear, until the lapse of time has deprived them of all value, except as historical documents. When the Czar endeavoured, by these means, to render the British Government the accomplice of his ambition, he probably imagined that the particulars would not see the light until he himself and all his doings, for good or evil, had receded into the dim twilight of history or tradition, and he had become almost as much of a myth as his predecessor Peter the Great, or Ivan the Terrible. But it is he himself that has betrayed his own secrets. Desirous of embarrassing the British Government, and of sowing mistrust between England and France, he taunted Lord John Russell with having long been privy to his projects. Released from secrecy by the act of the Emperor, the British Government have published the whole of the documents. Never was publication more opportune. Their effect will be prodigious throughout Europe. They unmask the hypocrite; they expose the robber; they show in his true colours the disturber of Europe, and the enemy of the civilisation and the peace of the world.

The Emperor Nicholas is the fitting successor of the able but bad woman who accomplished the partition of Poland. He sits upon her throne and carries out her policy. His zeal for religion is but a cloak to cover his lust of dominion and his avarice of territory. It was not in 1844, when he sounded the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel, that he first grew covetous of Turkish provinces: the idea was instilled into him from his earliest childhood, grew with his growth, and, like other men's vices, "hardened with his bones." The great States of Europe will regard these disclosures with different feelings. In this country indignation against the Emperor is mingled with satisfaction at the high tone assumed by the Ministry and their Ambassador. The correspondence could not have been more conciliatory, respectful, and cautiously worded towards the great States of Europe if every despatch had been intended for the fullest glare of immediate publicity. It is not possible to despise so formidable a foe as the Czar; yet something like contemptuous wonder must be felt at the utter ignorance of the British character and temper which he displayed when he imagined that such nefarious projects could be favourably received, or that the bribe of Egypt and Candia, or any other bribe whatsoever, could have made this nation the participator in his crimes. But we can scarcely wonder at the lax morality of a man who sings "Te Deums" in honour of the treacherous massacre of Sinope, and who continually proclaims to his people "that God is with him" in his attempts to appropriate the dominions of his neighbour. To serve his own ends, he continually acts upon the supposition that Turkey is in a moribund state. It is possible that he believed the fact to be as he represented it. In opening his mind to Sir Hamilton Seymour, he more than once spoke of the Ottoman Empire under his favourite images of a "sick man" and a "dying man;" yet it never seems to have occurred to the Imperial mind, that to plunder a sick man was quite as heinous an offence as to steal from a hale one; and that murder committed upon a bedridden and decrepit octogenarian was as monstrous a crime as the murder of a man in the full strength and maturity of his powers. But guilty ambition must of necessity impair all the moral perceptions. One monster vice effaces the boundary lines of truth and error, deadens the moral faculties, and obfuscates the intellectual ones. But *Ce Monsieur* (to employ towards himself the phrase by which he designated the Sultan) will no longer impose upon the people of this country. We should think that by this time, even the members of the Peace Deputation must be ashamed that they should have gone near him.

Opportune as the publication of these despatches has been as regards England, it will be still more opportune as regards France. The Emperor Napoleon and our generous Allies will learn of how small account the Czar considers them in the settlement of the affairs of Europe; that he not only designed to misappropriate Constantinople, but that he hoped to make England his ally against France in the inevitable opposition which the attempt would excite. If anything were needed to raise to fever-heat the blood of the gallant French army and navy, it would be found in the manner in which the Czar chose to ignore the right of that great nation to be consulted in such a matter as the dissolution

of the Turkish empire. The fact will lend energy to the arms of France, and will tend not only to strengthen for the present, but to perpetuate, in the future, the alliance so happily established betwixt them.

Suis-nous, O vieille Europe où l'honneur nous appelle,  
Deux peuples forts et guerriers  
Se tendent l'un à l'autre une main fraternelle  
Pour vider l'humanité.

The Austrian Government, so seriously interested in the restoration of peace, will, it is to be hoped, find additional reasons, in this correspondence, for making common cause with Great Britain and France against the public enemy. The Czar condescends to mention Austria in the business; but he speaks of her as of a Power completely under his influence, whose opposition is not to be thought of, and which, if it were, would signify nothing; if England would but accept Egypt and Candia, and help him to murder the "sick man," and parcel out his heritage.

It was an unlucky day for Austria when, sorely pressed by Kossuth, she accepted the fatal aid of the armies of Russia. It would have been better for her to have granted all that the Hungarians desired than to have owed the possession of Hungary to the good offices of the Czar. It is not yet too late for Austria to rid herself of the deadly incumbrance of Russian friendship. France and England desire no territorial aggrandisement to repay them for the war; but it will be for the interest of all the civilised states of Europe, as well as of Austria, that the mouths of the Danube—that great Austrian river—should be rescued from Russian domination. Austria has every conceivable motive to take part against Russia. We do not know of one that could influence the mind of any intelligent Austrian statesman or subject in favour of the Czar. Even if interest and duty did not compel Austria to join the Western Alliance, prudence, if not fear, might induce her not to make enemies of



THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.—SKETCHED IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



States which, at a word, could let loose the Lombards and the Hungarians to distract her councils, and to find such full employment for her armies that she would not have a soldier to spare for aggressive warfare. Austria has hesitated long enough. The instinct, no less than the reason, of all Germany points out the course she must adopt. Germany has no other leader, and will follow with enthusiasm when Austria gives the signal. Any reasons for neutrality which might have been adduced from a belief in the Czar's reiterated declarations that he only insisted upon rights recognised by treaties, and that he sought no territorial aggrandisement at the expense of the Sultan, have been removed by the publication of the Czar's "secret and confidential" overtures. All doubt upon the subject will be as impossible in Austria as it is in France and England.

Prussia, that has taken part in all previous negotiations, as if she were one of the great Powers of Europe, is not once mentioned by the Czar. His contempt for *M. Clicquot* has long been known, but it could scarcely have been anticipated that the feeling extended to the whole Prussian people. But if the King of Prussia be a vacillating and timorous man, the Prussian nation is jealous of its honour and of its place in Europe. It will neither tolerate the insulting silence of the Emperor of Russia, nor the virtual abdication of its place as a first-rate Power, which is implied in the cowardly neutrality announced to the Prussian Chambers by *M. de Manteuffel*. With the ill-fortune which so often follows the acts and words of evil-doers, whether on a large or on a small scale, the Emperor of Russia has contrived, in his confidential communications to Sir Hamilton Seymour, to give just ground of offence to every Power interested in these transactions. It is, perhaps, the British Government that has been most insulted; but France, Austria, and Prussia have each sufficient ground for indignation against the overbearing despot, who, either with or without their concurrence, would seek to remodel the map of Europe. Even the slow mind of the King of Prussia may yet be prompted into action by the contagion of the disgust which his people must entertain towards a potentate who so coolly ignores their existence in a struggle that will affect them as vitally as any other people in Europe.

One word in conclusion as to the conduct of the British Government in receiving and commenting upon these despatches. They knew the real objects of the Emperor in the spring of 1853; and, although they may not have been guilty of too much courtesy in acting towards the Emperor in all their open transactions as if they believed his public protestations in preference to his private avowals, we think they might have been prepared for the *ultima ratio* at an earlier period than the spring of 1854. On the very day (March 23rd, 1853) when the Foreign Secretary very ably and temperately explained and reproved the schemes of the Emperor, a letter was despatched from the Foreign-office to Colonel Rose, at Constantinople, blaming that clear-sighted functionary, for requesting Admiral Dundas to bring the British fleet to Vourla. Colonel Rose knew nothing of these "secret and confidential" despatches, and yet he recommended a line of conduct, which a knowledge of that correspondence would have rendered still more advisable. A little more energy at that time would have done no discredit to the British Ministry. In fact, it is highly probable that the presence of a British fleet in the Dardanelles in 1853 might have prevented the war altogether.

### THE PREMIER IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE Portrait of the Earl of Aberdeen, engraved upon the preceding page, was sketched in the House of Lords, a few evenings since, while his Lordship was speaking. The likeness is admirable.

Of the Premier a copious memoir appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS No. 601. The accompanying characteristics of his Lordship are from a volume of graphic vigour, entitled the "History of the Session 1852-3. A Parliamentary Retrospect":—

Lord Aberdeen is honest—patriotic—zealous that his premiership should be distinguished by national satisfaction; and it is not possible that, at sixty-eight, his motives in taking power could be other than the purest and noblest. And his influence will be proportionate to the confidence that he is above and apart from the ambitions and schemes of the moment—that he is aiming at national good. But, perforce, he will have to think through others, and to decide on a balance of arguments presented to him by his various colleagues. Lord Aberdeen, at this moment, is precisely what might have been expected of a Peer who early entered on the magnificent education which Parliament provides—who was forced into ambition, and offices, and trust, and who, driven to hard work, was compelled to eschew delights and indolence, and so urged and kept in the regular habits which preserve mental and physical health. He never had cleverness—and he never had a seat in the House of Commons, which might have provoked the senatorial knock which so often passes for cleverness, and is, in truth, a very good substitute. But he was from the first, as his positions proved, a soundly judging, accurate, tactful, reliable man; and the dispassionate, cool head, always learning, always observing, is, after forty years of work and watching, full of wisdom—which is, remembrance of the results of observation. Of all men known to the public, he is especially fitted for the task assigned by the Queen, of being the centre of a combination of parties: for, with "all the talents" in one Cabinet, amenity is preferable to genius in the chief. A Premier of sixty-eight speaks with a force that Lord Derby, with the fatal facility of vigorous fluency, could never attain; and those who heard the speeches of these two men recently, in the House of Lords, would only contrast favourably the heavy, low-voiced, slow, conversational, or rather soliloquy-like style and manner of austere, grey-headed, large-chested Lord Aberdeen, with the "marry-come-up" "petulance" and pettiness which characterise the mind and nature of Lord Derby.

REPRESENTATION OF WESTMORELAND.—Nothing is yet known as to who will succeed the late Alderman Thompson, M.P. for Westmoreland. The county has not been contested since 1826, when Lord, then Henry Brougham, nearly succeeded in beating the Lowther interest, which has long been nearly paramount. Mr. Thompson succeeded to his seat on the elevation of Lord Lonsdale to the peerage, in 1841, previously to which both seats were monopolised by the house of Lowther.

A FATAL JOKE.—At Monaghan, last week, a "wake" was being held, and, as usual in rural districts, was the scene of much merriment. Amongst other frolics, a mock trial was held on a young man for the abduction of a young girl. Judge, jury, counsel, prisoner, and prosecutor were all enacted, and a verdict of guilty returned. The prisoner was placed on a creel, with a rope noosed round his neck, the other end cast over a beam, and unfortunately secured; by some accident the creel was kicked from under the man, he dropped—the spine was dislocated, and instant death ensued.

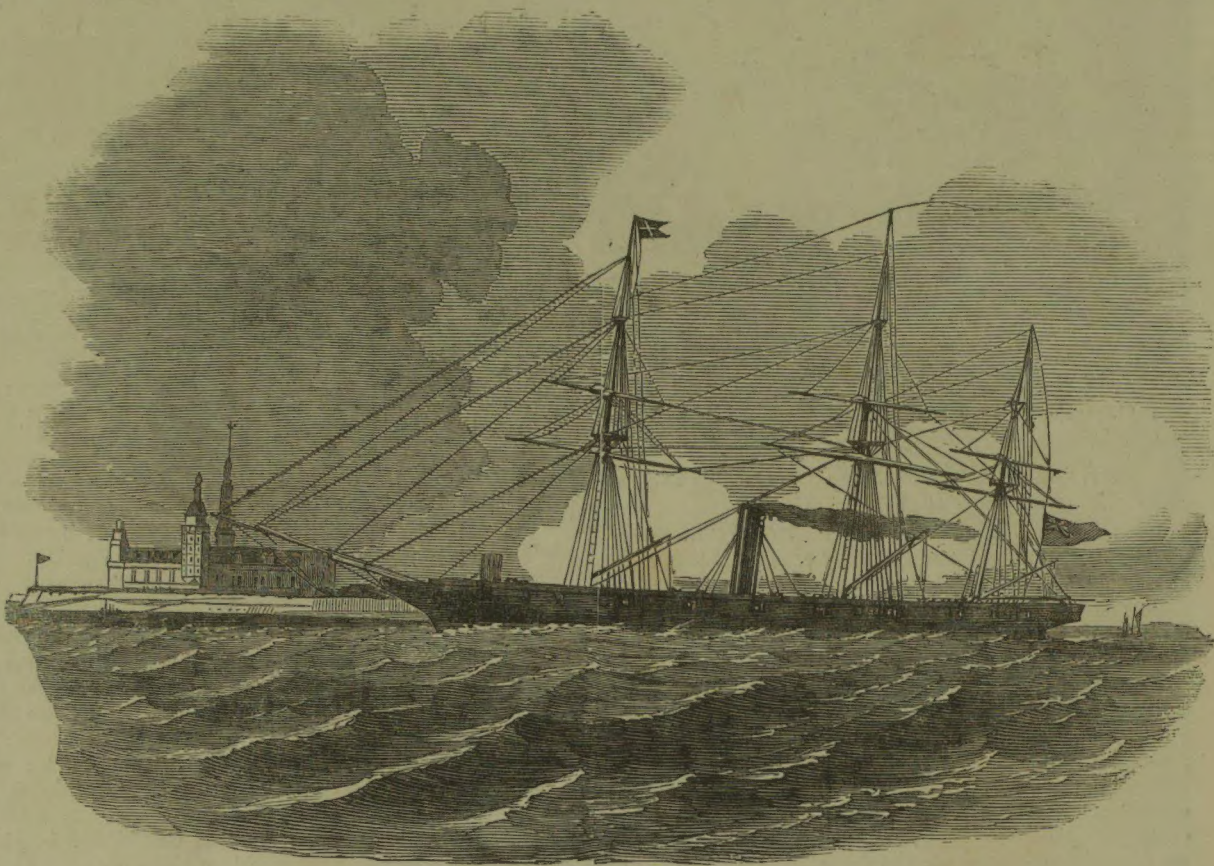
THE NORTH COUNTRY SEAMEN.—There is a very unhappy feeling existing between the shipowners and seamen in the north-east ports. A union man will sail with none but such as have medals, and the associations dictate the amount of wages that have to be earned by them per month or per voyage. The shipowners of Shields, Sunderland, and Hartlepool have met this combination by a counter-combination, and in each port officers are established, called "Shipowners' offices," for the employment of non-union men. The Tyne owners offer £s for a London voyage, but the unions refuse to allow their hands to go to sea under £6 10s.

VISITATION OF NONNERIES.—A large and respectable meeting of Roman Catholics was held on Tuesday, in St. Martin's-hall, for the purpose of expressing their sentiments in regard to the threatened interference with religious houses. The chair was taken by the Hon. Charles Langdale. Resolutions condemning such interference were carried without opposition.

### PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

#### THE BALTIC FLEET.

WE have been favoured by one of the officers of the steam-sloop *Miranda*, of 14 guns, with the accompanying sketch of that vessel, the pioneer of the Baltic fleet, saluting the Three Crowns battery of Kronborg Castle, Elsinore, on the 14th inst. Her arrival excited considerable interest, and the joyous roar of her cannon pealed forth at the very



M.M.S. "MIRANDA," THE PIONEER OF THE BALTIC FLEET, SALUTING KRONBORG CASTLE, ELSINEUR.

16th she left for Kiel. The promotion of Captain Lyons to this vessel has afforded the greatest satisfaction to his numerous Swedish friends in Stockholm. Unfortunately, the gallant Captain is labouring under a severe indisposition.

The Fleet under Sir Charles Napier has already been made up to twenty-six sail, twelve of which are ships of the line, and of these nine are fitted with screw propellers. The three sailing vessels of the line are the *Neptune*, 120, the *Monarch*, 84, and the *Boscawen*, 70. The total number of guns in the fleet, under Sir Charles Napier, is now 1363; of men, 14,015; of horse-power, 9810. To these will be added, in a few days—irrespective of the French force, part of which is on its way—nine vessels, five of which are screw steamers, and mounting altogether 865 guns, not to speak of ten smaller ships, chiefly moved by steam also.

Sir Charles Napier arrived at Copenhagen on Monday last, in the *Valorous*, 16, and immediately landed. The rest of the fleet was expected there on Tuesday or Wednesday. The *New Prussian Gazette*, under date of Kiel, 16th, says:—

The English Baltic fleet will not enter our port before the 21st or 22nd, as orders have been given to it not to enter the Baltic until after war shall have been declared by England against Russia. Thus, when you shall learn that the English fleet has entered this port you will also know that Russia has rejected the ultimatum of the Western Powers, and that England has declared war. We know nothing yet of the French fleet.

The *Lightning* steam-vessel, 3, left Woolwich on Tuesday morning, at five o'clock, for Sheerness, preparatory to her proceeding to the Baltic, where she is to be employed in laying down buoys where the navigation is difficult; and will be assisted in that service by the *Alban*, 3, commissioned at that port by Captain Otter. The *Lightning* had twelve buoys put on board at Woolwich; but her duties will be of no ordinary kind, as it is understood that the Emperor of Russia has ordered all the buoys serving as guides to the safe navigation of the approaches to and in the Baltic to be removed previous to the arrival of the British fleet. The *Lightning* and the *Alban* are to be prepared to lay down about 350 buoys, which will be taken out a few in each of the ships of war and war steamers proceeding to the Baltic. These buoys being British property, it will be with great peril that any other power ventures to remove them while Sir Charles Napier is in the Baltic.

#### THE COMMISSARIAT FOR THE EAST.

Not the least important announcement, in connection with the expedition which we are despatching to the East, is that contained in a Treasury minute issued a few days ago, whereby directions are given to the Commissariat department for supplying the troops with malt liquors, preserved potatoes, chocolate, coffee, tea, sugar, rice, and Scotch barley for broth. These articles of diet are in addition to the ordinary rations of bread and meat, and to be supplied in detail at their nearest wholesale cost, without payment of duty, and excluding inconvenient fractions, thus leaving the public to bear the expense which will be incurred for freight, packing, and other incidental charges. The following tabular statement shows the supplies provided, the cost price, and the rate of proposed charge:—

Articles.	Quantities provided.	Cost Price.	Rate of Proposed Charge to the Troops.
Porter .. ..	64,800 gals.	35s. per bar. of 36 gals.	3d. per qt.
Pale ale (for the Officers) ..	2,700 ..	40s. per ditto ..	4d. ..
Preserved Potatoes .. ..	50,000 lbs.	5d. per lb. ..	5d. per lb.
Chocolate .. ..	10,000 ..	£1 16s. per cwt. ..	4d. ..
Coffee .. ..	80,000 ..	£61 10s. per ton ..	6½d. ..
Tea .. ..	8,000 ..	1s. per lb. ..	1s. ..
Sugar .. ..	100,000 ..	£1 1s. 6d. per cwt. ..	2d. ..
Rice .. ..	200,000 ..	£26 10s. per ton ..	3d. ..
Scotch Barley for Broth ..	10,000 ..	14s. 6d. per cwt. ..	1½d. ..

The regulations under which the different articles are to be delivered in bulk by the Commissariat to each regiment, and then distributed in detail, will probably be left to Lord Raglan to determine, and his Lordship will, no doubt, fix a limit to the quantity allowed to officers and men, in order that the boon thus conferred may not be converted to other purposes than the soldier's benefit. The importance of this precaution is pointed out in the Treasury minute, it being very naturally presumed that in the article of beer especially the predilections of our troops are likely to undergo no change from service in the East. The foregoing arrangement must give great satisfaction not only to those gallant fellows who will be directly benefited thereby, but also to their countrymen at home, who will have all the more confidence in the triumph of our arms when they know that the "pluck" of our soldiers is sustained by a liberal Commissariat. Should the plan succeed with the expeditionary force, as is expected, it will probably be extended to the troops ordinarily serving abroad.

The latest accounts from Malta complain of a short supply of provisions for the first few days after the arrival of the troops. The almost simultaneous influx of so large a number of healthy men, with appetites invigorated by sea-breezes, and who had been accustomed to substantial English fare, threatened to produce some inconvenience as to providing them with the articles of food which, while necessities to them, were not in general use among the light-feeding natives of the south; but the utmost efforts were employed by the authorities to make up for lost time, and supplies were said to be pouring in from all quarters. The

moment when the Upper House was almost unanimously voting its want of confidence in the Russian despotic Ministry.

As the King of Denmark had, in February last, withdrawn the permission for foreign vessels of war to lie within the Three Crowns battery range, the *Miranda* anchored in the offing, at about an English mile from the battery. A boat put off soon after; and from the officers and crew it was ascertained that she was ten days from England, whence she had been despatched previous to any naval review, and in such haste that many indispensable purchases had still to be made in Copenhagen. The *Miranda* was instructed to wait for further orders in the Sound; on the

#### EMBARKATION OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY.

The embarkation of Captain Levinge's troop of Royal Horse Artillery and the half of the men and horses of Captain Anderson's company, was effected at Woolwich on Saturday last, most successfully. The period of embarkation was kept a secret until the last moment, the first intimation of the intended movement being made by the arrival of Captain Riddell, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General of Artillery, at a quarter past twelve at night, at the dockyard, to communicate to Commodore Superintendent John Shepherd, that the troops would embark in the horse transport ships, shortly after six a.m., and that several waggons, with stores, would arrive at an early hour. The men were awakened shortly after five o'clock, a.m., and told that they had to get up and embark immediately. The intelligence surprised them; but, on such occasions, soldiers under the eye of their superiors, only know the term "duty;" and by a quarter past six they were all mounted in route order. The troops left the garrison at a quarter before seven o'clock. The band did not play, and the troops marched so quietly that few of the inhabitants of Woolwich were aware of their departure. On entering the dockyard at seven o'clock, the horses were unharnessed on the dockyard parade ground, and the harness packed into casks for each gun detachment. The embarkation of the horses then commenced, and the whole of the guns and ammunition-waggons were put on board, and the six ships taken out of the basin and towed to moorings at the Royal Arsenal by half-past three o'clock p.m., without the least inconvenience or accident whatever. One of the horses slipped and fell into the basin between the *Pyrenees* and *Her Majesty*, horse transport ships, but was not injured. The wives of the men were admitted into the dock-yard at two p.m. to bid their husbands adieu, and seven women were allowed to embark with each troop or company, but no children.

Captain Milne, the member of the Board of Admiralty who has the arrangement of this onerous service, minutely inspected the ships before their departure. Fifty men, with their horses, guns, ammunition, and complete equipment, have been allotted to each of the six transports, and such excellent arrangements have been made by Captain Milne, that when the ships arrive at their destination, each will deliver perfect in every respect its fifty men, horses, and guns ready for the field. The ships were towed down the river by tugs, so as to lose as little time as possible.

#### THE FRENCH PREPARATIONS.

The first portion of the French expedition, under General Canrobert, sailed on Sunday night from Marseilles, for its destination in the East. It is said that the whole of the expeditionary army of France will be embarked by the 25th, at the ports of Toulon, Marseilles, and Algiers, and that these divisions will go directly to Gallipoli, a small Turkish town on the peninsula which forms the European side of the Straits of the Dardanelles, and sometimes called the Peninsula of Gallipoli. It is a town of about 17,000 inhabitants, and is celebrated in history as being the first place in Europe captured by the Turks. The port is a good one. This town has always been the rendezvous of the Turkish fleets on their way to or from the Mediterranean, and it was there that they were refitted and provisioned. The point is a very important one in a strategic point of view, and appears to be a good selection. At this place the French army will find itself nearer to Adrianople than if it were to make Constantinople its headquarters; and the country around it is much more healthy than the swampy district around the Gulf of Enos, which was, in the first instance, fixed upon as the headquarters of the French army. In the event of the Russians crossing the Danube, the expeditionary army will be able, in four marches, by way of Ketan and Demotika, and by keeping the left bank of the Marizza, to reach Adrianople. By this means the expeditionary army will be at once in a position to bar the road to Constantinople against the Russian army, should it have succeeded in crossing the Balkans. Besides this, Gallipoli being a very good maritime station, the fleets could, in case of necessity, re-embark the whole of the English and French armies at that place, and carry them to any point of the Black Sea where their presence may be necessary.

The inhabitants of Marseilles are already making arrangements for a grand fête to be given to the Duke of Cambridge, on his arrival in that city, where he is to embark for the East. The reception at Paris will also be everything that could be wished.

More than 6000 mechanics, and nearly an equal number of convicts, work day and night in the Arsenal of Toulon, where immense quantities of ammunition and other materials for the prosecution of the war have been collected.

The *Moniteur* announces that the *Austerlitz*, of 100 guns, left Brest on the 20th inst. for the Baltic. The *Hercule*, *Duguesclin*, and *Trident* have left Toulon for the same destination. The *Duperré* was to leave on the 24th to join the Baltic fleet, and the remaining vessels will leave very shortly. Admiral Parseval-Deschenes left Paris on Monday for Brest, to take the command of the Baltic squadron.

A report is current that M. Mazzini is preparing to show himself among his partisans in Italy.



FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THREATENED COMMENCEMENT OF HOSTILITIES.

The latest news from Constantinople is of a warlike character. On Saturday, the 11th, a circular was communicated by our Consulate there to the merchants and shipowners, to inform them that the Russians had endeavoured to impede the navigation of the St. George's mouth of the Danube, by throwing in rocks, sand-bags, anchors, and rubbish; and that of the Sulina mouth, by stretching a chain across, with a temporary opening in the centre for small vessels. This information came from the English Consul at Galatz. It is not stated whether these precautions were taken to prevent the ingress of the British and French steamers, or the egress of all merchant vessels. A private letter from Belcos, dated the 12th, alludes to the affair in the following terms:—

The English sent yesterday, at three o'clock, the fine steam-frigate the *Retribution* with orders to force the stockade which the Russians have established at the mouth of the Danube, and which completely prevents the merchant-ships from descending the river, which, for commercial purposes only, they had ascended. If the Russians oppose the destruction of that stockade, the *Retribution* has orders to fire upon them. It is probable that the act will be the commencement of hostilities. The French steam-corvette the *Caton* left with that frigate. We shall know in five or six days the result.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

Various statements have been published of late as to the strength of the Russian marine, but of a highly inconsistent, and, for the most part, erroneous, character. The *Fremden Blatt* professes to give the following statement as a reliable and trustworthy view of the actual state and effective condition of the Russian navy; and to have derived its information from the best sources. The return is not without some interest, at a moment when the Russian navy is about to meet with something more than its match:—

The entire marine of Russia is collected at two stations, those of the Baltic and of the Black Sea. Of these, that of the Baltic Sea is divided into three sections, and that of the Black Sea into two. But this does not include the various gun-boats and small craft. Each division of the fleet consists usually of one three-decker, eight two-deckers, six frigates, one corvette, and five smaller vessels. Thus the Baltic fleet would number 27 vessels of the line, including 3 three-deckers, 18 frigates, and 15 corvettes, brigs, and smaller vessels, besides a considerable number of steamers. That of the Black Sea, on the other hand, will amount to 18 vessels of the line, and among them 3 three-deckers, besides 12 frigates, 10 corvettes, and several steamers. Hence, the Russian marine amounts in all to 45 vessels of the line, 30 frigates, 25 corvettes, and 20 brigs, besides the very considerable force of steamers and gun-boats, which the Russian empire places at 400 or 500 vessels. The aggregate of the Russian crews is given at 50,600 men; of whom 30,800 belong to the Baltic, and 19,800 to the Black Sea fleet. The grand Russian three-deckers are the *Russia*, of 130 guns; the *Twelve Apostles*, of 120 guns; the *Three Saints*, of 120; and the *Warsaw*, of 120. Admiral Prince Menschikoff is at the head of the naval staff; the Grand Duke Constantine is High Admiral of the Russian fleets; Von Kolsakoff and Von Ricord are also Admirals. Among the Vice-Admirals are persons named Glasenass, Katschaloff, Von Berg, Count Heyder, Von Lütge, Putzlin, Karniloff, Nachimoff, Kumann, Melichoff, Bogdenovich, Von Flater, &c.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA MISSING.

From a short account in the French papers of a trip which the *Vauban* made lately in the Black Sea, it appears that the Russian fleet is concealed somewhere. The *Vauban* made her appearance on the 26th ult. before Sebastopol, but out of cannon shot; though, at that distance, she was able to count the vessels in the port, which consisted of ten sail of the line, of which three were three-deckers, and a frigate. Seven of these vessels were moored in a line across the entrance; and outside this line, in the narrowest part of the channel, a chain was drawn, similar to that which protects the entrance to the port of Brest. At the approach of the *Vauban* the chain was lowered, in order to allow of the entrance of a corvette which had been cruising in the offing, and again drawn up after her. Three line-of-battle ships were refitting in the port. The fort and all the batteries on the coast were manned—all ready for action. The *Vauban* hoisted the French flag, and then made sail. The Russian flag was flying on the forts and on board the ships, but the Russians made no demonstration. The *Furious* anchored off Odessa; she saluted the Russian flag with 21 guns, which was returned by a similar number; but no Russian vessel of war could be seen at Odessa. It appears from these reports that the defence of Sebastopol were completed, so as to make any attack by sea very hazardous, and that eight sail of the line and several frigates, part of the Russian fleet of the Black Sea, have taken refuge on some point not yet known. It is supposed that they must be lying in some of the roadsteads on the coast of Circassia, situated between Anapa and Soukoum-Kaleh; for all the other parts of the coast have been visited. This point will, however, be soon cleared up, as some frigates were to be sent in that direction to reconnoitre.

THE NEW MAP OF EUROPE.

Much excitement has been created in Paris by the appearance of a pamphlet with the ominous title of "La Revision de la Carte d'Europe." The writer proposes that Finland, one of the provinces of which, Wyborg, was conquered and annexed to Russia by Peter the Great, and the remainder wrested wrongfully by the same Power in 1809, should be restored to Sweden. The Polish provinces, by means of which Russia can now penetrate too far into the territory of the Western Powers, must be consolidated; but, as the independence of a separate kingdom of Poland would not long survive, he proposes that Poland should be annexed to Prussia. The constitution of the Moldo-Wallachian provinces, with their semi-independence, their half-acknowledgement of a Suzerainty of the Porte, and the influence of Russia, cannot subsist. He suggests, then, that these Principalities, with Bessarabia, shall be annexed to Austria, and that Turkey shall receive, as compensation, the Crimea. In order to counterbalance the advantage acquired by Austria in the possession of the Principalities, Lombardy is to be consolidated with Piedmont, forming one Italian kingdom. Of England and France nothing is said. Such is the outline of the plan recommended by this anonymous writer, and which has excited so much curiosity. The writer does not appear to be an ordinary publicist. He scarcely condescends to support his view of this sweeping revision by much reasoning or argument. He goes to his work in right Imperial style; and, instead of taking pains to show the propriety of doing this or doing that, he says that such a thing ought to be done, and no other. The Government disavows all participation in, or knowledge of, the work in question. The proofs have been seized, and the publication prohibited.

THE PRUSSIAN NEUTRALITY.

On the 18th inst., M. Von Manteuffel laid before the Second Chamber a Royal message demanding a credit of four millions and a half sterling, which the Government hopes not to need, but which he says it must have at its disposal in order to be prepared for eventualities which at the present critical juncture nobody can foresee. The Minister read a declaration which claims to be accepted as a clear and open indication of the course which Prussia will pursue in face of the war commencing between its western and eastern neighbours. The document is, however, but a string of sentences, worded with the studied care of pledging the Government to nothing at all.

UNITED STATES.

By the *Europa* we have advices from New York to the 8th inst. The news is not very important. There had been considerable excitement in Congress on the Nebraska Bill, which has at length been disposed of so far as the Senate is concerned. In that Chamber the debate was brought to a close at a late hour on the 3rd, or rather at an early hour on the 4th instant, and upon the vote being taken, there appeared for the bill 37, and against it 14. The *New York Herald* states that instructions have been despatched to Mr. Buchanan to inquire the meaning of Lord Clarendon's assurance that Great Britain and France were of one mind on American as well as European questions. Another fire had occurred in New York at two o'clock on the morning of the 7th in the basement of No. 8, Spruce-street, and property to the value of upwards of 300,000 dollars was laid in ruins.

AUSTRALIA.

By the *Sydney steamer* we have received intelligence from Australia to the 7th of December—some days later than the dates by the *Great Britain*. A falling-off in the produce of some of the gold-fields is reported, owing to the want of water, and the rush of the diggers to new quarters. The Ballarat and Forest Creek sides seem to be the principal attraction. The week's produce from Bendigo had fallen off about 7000 ounces; but many of the diggers were hoarding their gold to spend at

Christmas. The price was steady at 76s. 9d. Mr. Khull, in his circular, reports, upon good authority, that there was still abundance of gold to be obtained when the proper season came round. The quantity shipped for the year, up to the 10th December, was 2,141,876 ounces, which may be valued at £9,587,504. Drafts against gold on London were at one per cent discount. Prices of labour keep up, and there was a steady demand for all useful classes, at high wages. The arrival of vessels from Great Britain during the week ending 11th December had comprised fourteen vessels from London and seven from other parts. The Owens diggings were yielding largely.

The Council of Victoria had been compelled to pass the new Gold-fields Management bill very hurriedly, the term of the temporary Act expiring on the 1st of December. The new bill was read a third time on the 29th of November. The scale of the license fees has again been altered; it is now fixed at £1 for a month, and £8 for the whole year; the fee for three months is £2; for six months, £4. This alteration has been strongly objected to, as it removes the inducement to take out annual licenses, offered by the former scale. Those who take out a license for a year will be entitled to the political franchise for the future representatives of the gold-fields in the Legislative Council, and will also have a right to a plot of ground on the diggings, to cultivate as a garden. The annual license fee, therefore, partakes of the character of rent. The amount of royalty to be paid by mining companies taking leases of land for their operations is fixed at one-twentieth of the produce.

The Legislative Council of New South Wales had re-assembled on the 6th December, and was to go into committee on the Constitution bill on the 7th, the day the *Sydney* sailed.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS

THOMAS WILLIAM ANSON, EARL OF LICHFIELD.



The death of this nobleman occurred on the 18th inst., at Hill-street, Berkeley-square. His Lordship was born 20th October, 1795, the eldest son of Thomas, Viscount Anson, by Anne Margaret, his wife, second daughter of Thomas W. Coke, Esq., of Holkham, county Norfolk; afterwards Earl of Leicester. He succeeded to the Viscounty of Anson at the death of his father, 31st July, 1818; and was advanced to the Earldom of Lichfield 8th September, 1831. In 1835 he became Postmaster-General, and held that office until 1841. He was also at one time Master of the Buckhounds. The Earl married, 11th February, 1819, Louisa Catherine, daughter of the late Nathaniel Phillips, Esq., of Slebech Hall, county Pembroke; and leaves issue, Thomas George, Viscount Anson (now second Earl of Lichfield), three other sons, and four daughters: of whom the eldest, Lady Louisa, is married to Edward King Tenison, Esq., of Kilton Castle, county Roscommon; the second, Lady Anne, is wife of Lord Elcho; and the third, Lady Harriet, is married to the Hon. Augustus Henry Vernon.

The first of the Ansons who attained the Peerage was George Anson, the famous circumnavigator. He was created Baron Anson in 1747, but died, s. p., in 1762, when that title became extinct; but his Lordship's estates devolved on his nephew, George Adams, Esq., who assumed the surname of Anson, and was father of Thomas, Viscount Anson, father of the Earl of Lichfield.

The deceased peer was Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Staffordshire Yeomanry Cavalry, a member of her Majesty's Privy Council, and a Doctor of Civil Law.

JOHN TWYFORD JOLIFFE, ESQ., OF AMMERDOWN-PARK, COUNTY SOMERSET.



This much respected and lamented country gentleman died, after a lingering and painful illness, on the 15th inst., at his beautiful seat, near Bath.

Colonel Joliffe was eldest son of the late Thomas Samuel Joliffe, Esq., M.P. for Petersfield, by Mary Anne Twyford, his wife, heiress of Kilmersdon; and grandson of John Joliffe, Esq., M.P.; whose father, Benjamin Joliffe, Esq., of Copton Hall, county Worcester, represented a family of considerable antiquity in the counties of Stafford and Worcester. Colonel Joliffe was Lieutenant-Colonel in the First Somerset Regiment of Militia, and a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Somersetshire. So great was the public good effected by this excellent gentleman's benevolence, and by his influence as an extensive landholder, that his loss will be long and deeply felt by his numerous tenantry. His hereditary estates devolve by entail on his only surviving brother, the Rev. Thomas Robert Joliffe, now of Ammerdown. There was one other brother, Charles Joliffe, an officer in the army, who fell at Waterloo.

GORGES LOWTHER, ESQ., LATE OF KILRUE, CO. MEATH.

This gentleman died on the 23rd ult., at his residence, Hampton Hall, Somerset, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He formerly possessed large estates in the county of Meath. His father and grandfather represented the county of Meath for many years in Parliament; and the latter, Gorges Lowther, Esq., was father of the Irish House of Commons, having sat for a period of fifty years. On his death, the House, by unanimous consent, went into mourning for three days. Mr. Lowther, whose decease we record, was for many years member for the borough of Ratoath. He commenced his career in the 5th Dragoon Guards, and afterwards commanded for sixteen years, a troop of Light Dragoons, in the county of Hants, where he had estates; and on one occasion was instrumental in dispersing a large body of malcontents, on their way from Portsmouth to London, and for which he received the thanks of the county. Mr. Lowther was descended from William, fifth son of Sir Christopher Lowther, of Lowther; the present Earl of Lonsdale being descended from Sir John, the eldest son. Mr. Lowther was educated at Winchester College, and at the Military College of Angers, in France. He was an author of no inconsiderable eminence, having published several works of a controversial character. He married Julia, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Huntingford, D.D., and niece of G. J. Huntingford, Lord Bishop of Hereford, by whom he leaves issue, five sons and four daughters.



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ROBERT FITZHARDINGE JENNER, ESQ.

This gentleman, a magistrate for the counties of Gloucester and Wilts, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal South Gloucester Militia, died on the 16th instant, at his residence, at Berkeley, in his 57th year. He was son and heir of the late Edward Jenner, M.D., F.R.S., LL.D. (so celebrated for having introduced vaccination), by Catherine, his wife, younger daughter of Robert Fitzhardinge Kingscote, Esq.

THE REV. DR. JENKINS.

The Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Master of Balliol College, Oxford, and Dean of Bath and Wells, died on the 6th inst., at the Master's Lodgings of his College. Dr. Jenkins' career was one of much respectability and high classical repute. He matriculated at Balliol College, May 28th, 1800, and took his degree of M.A., the 23rd October, 1806. Although at that time the system of awarding classes at the examinations was not in operation, it was evident that Dr. Jenkins passed through his examinations with great credit, for he was made Master of the Schools in 1809 and 1810, and subsequently a public Examiner in Literis Humanioribus. In the year 1819, at the time that he was Tutor and Bursar, he was elected Master of Balliol College, on the death of the Rev. Dr. Parsons, Bishop of Peterborough. In 1824 he served the office of Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and distinguished himself by his firmness, his courtesy, and his aptitude for his duties. In 1845 he was appointed Dean of Bath and Wells. At the time of his decease, Dr. Jenkins was a delegate of the press and of accounts in the University. He was, when he died, in his 71st year.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

The Government scheme for the reformation of the Civil Service of the country, which Mr. Gladstone is about to bring before the House, has formed the subject of conversation in literary circles during the present week. It is praised and dispraised, complained of and defended, at tables that are not literary; while among authors and candidates for distinction, either on the press or at the bar, it is thought to open a channel to distinction, all but closed to authors, since the memorable Ministry of Queen Anne. There are writers of repute, who dream, under the new scheme, to rise, like Prior, to ambassadorial distinction, or to hold, as Addison held, the seals of one of the principal Secretaries of State. Government purposes to throw open to public competition, as vacancies arise, the 16,000 situations held by the 16,000 civil servants of the Crown. The son of a Whitechapel butcher may enter into competition with the son of a Peer of the realm. A Howard or a Cavendish is to have no better chance than a Snooks or a Jim Baggs. Absolute fitness is to be the only test for every situation. The prizes to be contended for vary from £5000 a year to £90 a year; and the number of prizes in this lottery of distinction are said to average from £180 to £250 a year. The scheme has much that is excellent in it, but surely it is a little romantic. Who are to be the examiners—and what is the nature of the examination to which candidates are to be subjected? Very different talents are required for very different situations, and it is clear that the very best examiners will give a widely different importance to particular branches of information. Sir Isaac Newton spoke of poetry as ingenious nonsense; and Gray, the poet, looked on mathematics as an idle pestering of the brain. Lord Derby, as an examiner, would consider Lord Aberdeen as very unfit for the office of Prime Minister, and Mr. Disraeli would by no means consider Mr. Gladstone as the person the best fitted in the three kingdoms for the situation of Chancellor of the Exchequer. We know what boys and men can cram for—we know, moreover, that precocity is seldom lasting, and that a readiness in an examination answer is anything but a safe test of the higher and more valuable qualifications so essentially necessary in a public servant. Still, the scheme may be made to work well; and, in common with authors ambitious of ambassadorial distinction, we shall watch its progress with the interest it deserves.

There is a talk, and something more, of raising a public subscription for a monument to the memory of the late Mr. Justice Talfourd; but what shape the monument is to take is as yet wholly undetermined. Some of his admirers contemplate a handsome cenotaph over his grave in the cemetery at Norwood; others recommend a statue in Westminster Abbey; and many have suggested a Talfourd dramatic scholarship or medal. Any memorial over his grave placed by public subscription, might be thought to interfere with what his children may naturally prefer doing for themselves. Westminster Abbey is already overcrowded with statues and tablets; while Wordsworth and Byron are without monuments in Poet's Corner, a statue of Talfourd would be somewhat out of place there. The scheme of a dramatic scholarship—not to perpetuate his name, but to show our sense of his talents, and his services to the drama—merits every consideration; indeed, deserves to be carried out. Whatever is to be done should be done quickly. It is difficult to revive the first gush of sympathy. Friends are soon forgotten; and people are apt to exclaim, when asked for subscriptions for men already cold in the grave, "O, this should have been done before; it is too late now." If we want any instances of the evil of delays in such matters, we have only to call to mind the starved memorial to Mrs. Siddons, and the still lagging subscription to the memory of Sir James Mackintosh.

On the very day on which this number of our paper is published the famous marble eagle, one of the leading treasures of the Strawberry-hill collection, will pass to some new proprietor, under the hammer of Messrs. Christie and Manson. It is, in every respect, a very fine work, and has justly been the attraction in art in London during the present week. Our readers will, doubtless, remember its history. It was dug up in Italy, and is the eagle about which Walpole raves so admiringly in so many of his letters. The plumage is a masterpiece of carving. The British Museum should be its resting-place; but its destiny, and the price it sold for, we shall duly record in our next week's column. How little did Walpole foresee its fate!

Good autographs are rising in value. The fall in the Funds seems to have no effect on property not often in the market. A letter, in the handwriting of Oliver Cromwell, addressed to Mr. Cotton, "Pastor to the church at Boston, in New England," has just been sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson for £36. This is the highest price ever given for a Cromwell letter. It has gone to America—an excellent market for whatever is illustrative of English history and manners.

The Stowe copy of Houbraken's "Illustrious Heads," bought by Mr. Pickering, at the Stowe sale, for £91, was knocked down, on Thursday last, by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson, for £97. This is unquestionably the finest copy known of one of the finest books of engraved portraits. It was formed by Alderman Boydell, and contains ninety-five first proofs, before any letters; eighty-five proof impressions, besides many additional proofs; and nine etchings of the utmost rarity.

We recorded, a few weeks ago, the fate of one of the two famous cedars in the Botanic-gardens, at Chelsea. We have now to record, as a piece of landscape gardening news, the planting of a tree in Hyde-park, that is, in every likelihood, destined to be familiarly known to two centuries and more of English fashion and beauty. At the west end of Rotten-row, where the road to the right runs to the bridge over the Serpentine, and the road to the left descends to Kensington, the new Chief Commissioner of Woods has just planted, in the very centre of the road, a young vigorous sapling—an elm, we take it to be—with a plain substantial fence around it, where it serves at present for a sort of half-way shelter, like a lamp-post in London, for timorous adventurers to cross. When this tree shall have thrown its branches into the air, it will form a trysting-tree for lounging admirers—we had nearly said lovers—upon horseback. Reynolds boasted, and not unjustly, that he had painted two generations of English beauty—in other words, an entire century of English loveliness. Under this tree may meet—not greater loveliness, perhaps, but certainly a much greater amount of it. Our chronicling the period of its setting may be of interest hereafter.

Mr. Martin, the painter, has not left behind him—what painters generally leave—a number of finished and unfinished pictures upon canvases, and at least some ten or twenty portfolios of sketches for works completed or never commenced. We believe that his unsold pictures are not above three, and his sketches literally none. He has left, however, some sixty exquisite water-colour drawings—chiefly transcripts from nature—made with a poet's eye and a painter's skill in rendering all that is beautiful before him. We have seen these drawings: there are three of the Windcliff, in South Wales, that are perfect marvels in water-colour art.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD.—Last week, three labourers who were at work at Ballykilly, county Clare, upon the property of Mr. Blood, through which the Limerick and Ennis Railway is to run, accidentally turned up with a spade a large quantity of valuable antique Irish gold ornaments, of which they eagerly possessed themselves, and one of the parties, who filled his hat with the precious metal, was simple enough to sell 1104 ounces of it for £30. The gold is of the purest description, consisting of armlets, ringlets, bracelets, collars, &c., and worth £4 per ounce.

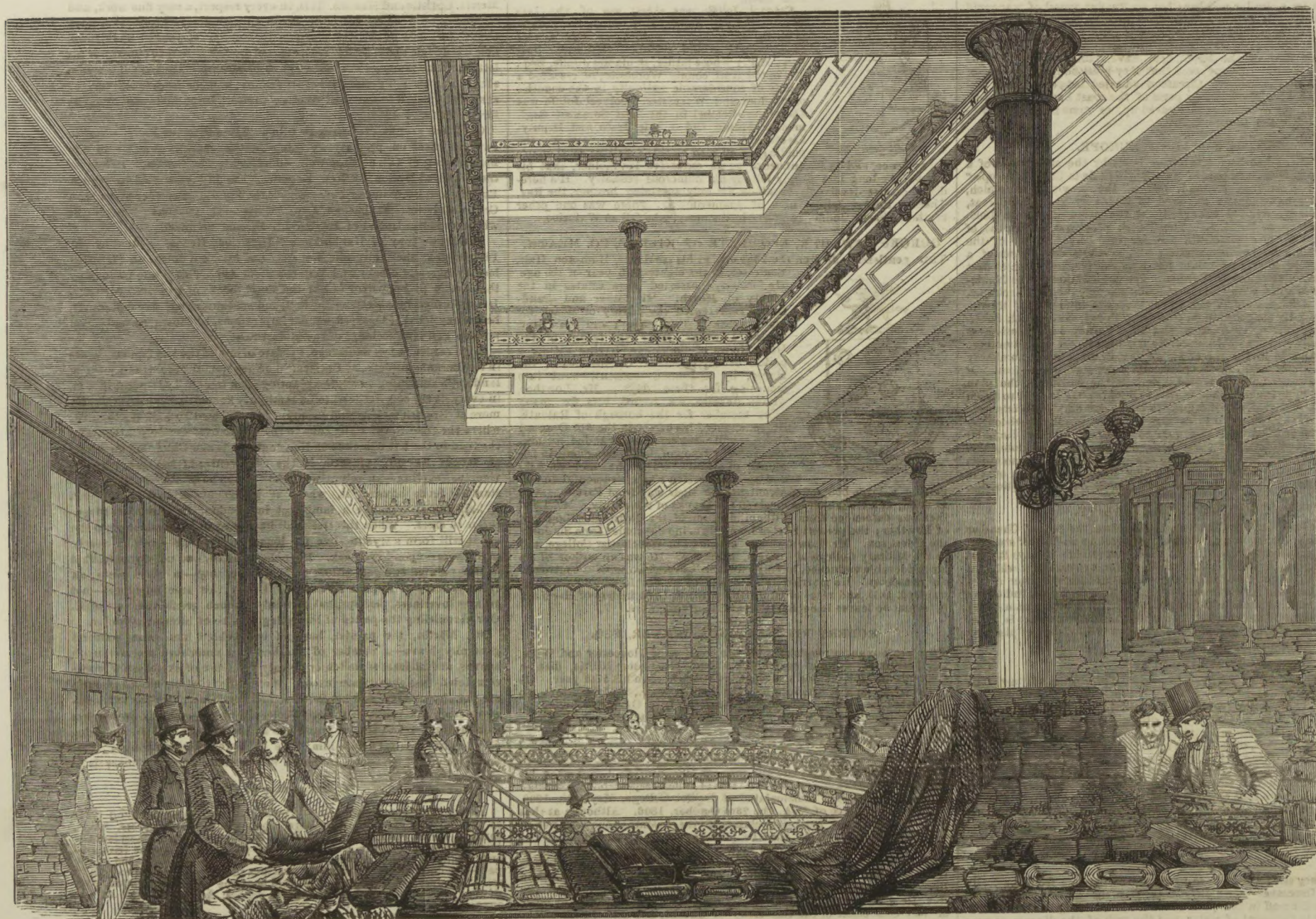
Jacob Albert, of Baltimore, who died three weeks ago, has left two millions of dollars.

M. de Villèle, French Minister of Finance, under the Restoration, died at Toulouse on the 18th instant.





THE NEW LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.



MESSRS. PAWSON AND CO.'S WAREHOUSE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.



## THE STOCK EXCHANGE.—LONDON WAREHOUSES.

THE Illustration of the largest Money-market in the world, and the most extensive buildings in the metropolis, for purposes of trade, may be appropriately associated upon the same page, since they possess a kindred interest in being great centres of our commercial prosperity. We commence with

## THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

THE origin of the Stock Exchange, although not commencing with the existence of a National Debt, yet arose out of it. There were formerly only two recognised modes of obtaining funds for great national emergencies—subsidies levied by the arbitrary will of the Sovereign, and loans from wealthy merchants or corporations. The financial history of this country, up to the time of the second James, presents but one unvaried system of rapacity and bad faith, on the part of each succeeding Government. In every reign money was wrung from the pockets of any class or from any individual who was supposed to possess it. Richard I. threatened to sell "London itself if a larger subsidy were not raised to furnish his army for the Holy War." King John forced money from the abbots and higher clergy. At one time outrageous monopolies were sold; at another, arbitrary fines were imposed, or as arbitrary taxes were levied; at another, "benevolences" were claimed; while many a time the Crown jewels were sold or pawned, to meet the exigencies of the Sovereign.

The first gleam, and it was but a gleam, that shone through all this misty atmosphere of wrongfulness, comes to us in the time of Sir Thos. Gresham. Those arbitrary subsidies, so odious and so objectionable, became, under his financial administration, the exception rather than the rule. Gresham's advice to Elizabeth was, "Keep your credit, and specially with your own merchants; for it is they who must stand by you, at all events, in your necessities." The principle thus enunciated—the very pivot on which works the system of mutual reliance between a nation and its rulers—though acknowledged, was not fully acted on until the Revolution, which placed William of Orange on the throne.

With the accession of William III. commenced that enormous accu-

mulation known as the National Debt, supported and upheld in its gathering by its strict observance of Gresham's great principle, "Keep your credit." Mr. Macaulay has said that the Revolution did not import the practice of creating a debt—it merely introduced the system of honestly paying it. Before the Revolution the National Debt amounted to £664,263, producing an annual charge of £39,855, chiefly in the form of terminable annuities. At the present moment the Debt amounts to upwards of seven hundred and sixty-one millions, producing an annual charge of more than twenty-seven millions.

The growing importance of the English Funds soon produced extensive jobbing in the various securities, and the scene of these transactions was the Royal Exchange. In 1698, however, the jobbers found a more convenient locality, in 'Change-alley. Here, looking south, stood Jonathan's Coffee-house—as much the resort of the stock-jobbers, brokers, and their clients, as "the Alley" itself; and here assembled men of all ranks and characters, infected with a spirit of gambling that reached a culminating point with the bursting of the South Sea Bubble in 1720. The ruinous effects of this latter scheme created so strong a prejudice against speculation in the public securities, that the House of Commons in that year, passed a vote to the effect "that nothing can tend more to the establishment of public credit than preventing the infamous practice of stock-jobbing."

Another objection to the "doings in the Alley" was made in the provisions of the bill brought in at the instigation of Sir John Barnard, in 1732, against "time bargains," which, from that time, became illegal. The crusade against "the Alley," in fact, seems, about this period, to have been at its acme; the proceedings of the jobbers in the public Funds were decried as "a complete system of knavery, founded on fraud," and the whole town was said to be "converted into a corporation of brokers and usurers, which could lie the Government into credit one week, and out of it the next."

Yet the virtuous indignation against the stock-jobbers which swelled the immaculate bosom of the State, was slightly at variance with the practice of the Government in encouraging lotteries for its own profit. And, with a singular want of consistency, too, no indignation was vented

against the traffic in seamen's tickets: a considerable portion of the fortune accumulated by Guy, the founder of the hospital bearing his name, was made by this traffic.

From some unexplained cause, but possibly from "Jonathan's" not being sufficiently extensive, in consequence of the increase of stock-jobbing business, those engaged in it removed to a room in Threadneedle-street; and in a newspaper dated July 15, 1773, we find that "the brokers and others at 'New Jonathan's,' yesterday, came to a resolution that, instead of its being called New Jonathan's, it should be called 'The Stock Exchange,' which is to be wrote over the door. The brokers then collected sixpence each, and christened the house with punch."

The still increasing scale of transactions in the public Funds, however, rendered another removal necessary; and at the close of the last century subscriptions were raised for the erection of a new Stock-market; the site fixed on being Capel-court, on the east side of Bartholomew-lane—the spot where formerly stood the residence of William Capel, Lord Mayor of London in 1504. The first stone of the new building was laid on the 18th of May, 1801. It records that "at this era, the first year of the union between Great Britain and Ireland, the public funded debt had accumulated in five successive reigns to £552,730,924." And the inscription adds—"The inviolate faith of the British nation and the principles of the Constitution sanction, and secure the property embarked in this undertaking. May the blessing of that Constitution be sacred to the latest posterity."

Hitherto—at all events, while it was held in 'Change Alley, and at Jonathan's Coffee-house—the market had been an open one, into which any person could go as freely as he could pass along a public thoroughfare; but, on the creation of the new Stock Exchange, none but members were admitted, who were elected by ballot, and who paid an annual subscription.

All business in the Foreign Funds was still transacted in the Royal Exchange, and so continued up to 1822, when the jobbers in those securities removed to the market in Capel-court. It is worthy of remark, as regards Foreign Stocks, that bargains in them "for time," do not come under the category of Sir John Barnard's Act; and differences



MESSRS. COOK, SONS, AND CO.'S WAREHOUSE, ST. PAUL'S-CHURCHYARD.

according to the decisions of several Judges, may be recovered by the broker against a repudiating client.

The Stock Exchange, for all purposes of its internal government, is ruled by a committee of thirty of its members, who have a power of expulsion, suspension, and reprimand. A person desirous of admission must be introduced by three members, each of not less than two years' standing, and each of whom becomes security for the new member in £300 for two years, in the event of the latter being unable to meet his liabilities. No bill or discount broker, nor any person engaged in business not connected with the Stock Exchange; no clerk in the Bank of England, East India House, South Sea House, or in any public or private establishment, is eligible to become a member. Neither can any person be admitted whose wife is engaged in business.

The members are divided into two classes, brokers and jobbers: the former are the agents of the public for the purchase or sale of stock and shares, and are remunerated by the charge of a commission; the latter are the dealers, and buy of, or sell to, the broker, remunerating themselves by the "turn" of so much per share or per cent, the "turn" varying according to the value of the stock or share, and the consequent extent of the risk.

The fluctuations in price are regulated by the simple economy of supply and demand; and the market rises or falls in proportion. The expectation of any event—such as a war, or a good or bad harvest—acts upon prices by anticipation.

Something of the "old leaven" of prejudice against jobbers, which subsisted in bygone times, is still to be met with at the present day. Many cannot "see the necessity" for the jobber's interference, and moreover look upon the "turn" of the Market as so much lost to the investor or seller. The corn jobber was at one time regarded with a much more evil eye than the stock-jobber; and the laws, for many

centuries aimed at annihilating the dealer in corn; endeavouring to hinder any middle-man from coming between the grower and consumer. The positions of the stock and corn-jobber bear a relative affinity to each other, and the agency of such a middle-man is necessary to maintain a just balance between the supply and demand, and to regulate an equitable price for the commodity.

The Stock Exchange having been found too small for the accommodation of its members, who now number 1050, besides 500 clerks, its enlargement was commenced about a year ago, the Committee hiring the Hall of Commerce until the completion of the alterations of their own house. This has just been accomplished, and the new structure was opened last week.

It has been erected by Messrs. W. Cubitt and Co. from the designs of Mr. Thomas Allason. About £6000 was expended in securing additional space prior to the commencement of the works, and the cost of the new edifice will exceed £10,000. It stands in the centre of the block of buildings fronting Bartholomew-lane, Threadneedle-street, Old Broad-street, and Throgmorton-street. The principal entrance is from Bartholomew-lane through Capel-court. There are also three entrances from Throgmorton-street, and one from Threadneedle-street. The area of the new house is about 75 squares, and it would contain 1100 or 1200 members; there are, however, seldom more than half that number present.

The site is very irregular, and enforced some peculiar construction in covering it, into which iron enters largely. For the cupola laminated ribs are used. The vault which covers the centre of the building, 39 ft. span, is of timber and iron. The whole of this, together with the dome, &c., is covered with lead to the extent of about 80 tons, and is an excellent piece of plumber's work.

Besides the "house," or large room, there are strong rooms, committee rooms, reading and refreshment rooms, &c.

To ventilate the building, fresh air is admitted at the basement into two large chambers, filled with coils of warm-water pipe (by Jeakes), heated at a very low degree, for the purpose of tempering, but not warming, the air. A communication is formed between these chambers and the house behind the wall-framing; and the tempered air is admitted into the house at a height of about six feet from the floor. The

vitiated air is got rid of by an extracting chamber on the apex of the dome, heated by a gas sun-burner with 500 jets. During the day the sun-burner is concealed from view by a sliding perforated metal screen; but, when required, sufficient illuminating power is to be obtained, we are told, by withdrawing the screen, to light up the house without additional burners.

The building is warmed by large open fires. The floor, ceiling, and sides of the new strong-room are formed of inch-metal iron girders, ten inches from centre to centre, with flanges five inches wide, having transverse wrought iron bars five by three-eighths every nine inches; the whole filled in with blue Staffordshire bricks in pure cement. The walls are lined with case-hardened steel, and fitted up with wrought-iron boxes. There is an external wall, two feet thick, round the strong room, to prevent fire from coming in contact with the metal girders. The floor between the refreshment-room in the basement and the house over is formed by rolled T iron joists, two feet six inches apart, having the lower flange placed downwards, and three courses of plain tiles in cement resting on it: the whole is covered with twelve inches of concrete, and a wood floor over. We have abridged these structural details from the *Builder*. The interior, as our Illustration shows, displays very beautiful ornamentation; and the new house is altogether one of the most elegant edifices of its class in the metropolis.

## LONDON WAREHOUSES.

Whoever of late years has paid much attention to the extraordinary changes which have taken place in the conduct of business, whether in relation to the production or the dissemination of saleable goods, can hardly have failed to remark that the economy of commerce, of whatever kind, has been undergoing very important modifications. Old systems are breaking down, and, like old machines past work, are pushed aside to make room for new improvements. In the departments of manufacture, on the one hand, science is taxed to discover the means of effecting the maximum of produce from a given amount of raw material; and, as one of the results of her investigations, such words as "waste," and "rubbish," and "refuse," are beginning to be expunged from the manufacturer's vocabulary. Everything is found to have its use, and to be available for purposes of profit; and a multitude of articles of mer-

\* By the 5th and 6th Edward VI., cap. 14, whoever bought any corn or grain with intent to sell it again, should be reputed an unlawful engrosser, and should, for the first fault, suffer two months' imprisonment, and forfeit the value of the corn; for the second, six months' imprisonment, and forfeit double the value; and for the third, be set in the pillory, suffer imprisonment during the King's pleasure, and forfeit all his goods.



chandise are now bought and sold which are manufactured from materials that a generation back were regarded as utterly worthless. In the departments of distribution and sale, on the other hand, a system of ingenious adaptation and order, almost amounting to a science, has grown up contemporaneously, and is fast spreading into general use. Its grand object is the economization of time and labour, which are as much the capital of the merchant, who pays his business agents for the time they spend in his service, as his raw material and machinery that of the manufacturer, who remunerates his agents for the work they execute. Thus, it is one principle which is at work in both instances—the principle to which commerce owes its progress, and will one day owe its ultimate perfection—the principle, to wit, of a prudent, provident, and politic economy.

We are led to these reflections by a morning's visit, which by the courtesy of the proprietors, we have been allowed to make, to some of the monster warehouses standing within the shadow of St. Paul's Cathedral. It may be worth the reader's while to follow us at least through a portion of the route, and to witness the spectacle it presents of industrial energy and order. We will land him first, with his permission, in the Receiving-room, an underground chamber on the basement floor, of the Messrs. Lawson and Co.'s establishment. It is a simple affair enough, being an ordinary room filled with bales and boxes, and differing only from other underground rooms by abundance of light, and a more than usual degree of cleanliness. An inclined plane communicates with a back street, and down this almost every article of merchandise sold in the establishment finds its way into the premises, and, as soon as the sale is effected, finds its way out again from a chamber of exit but a few paces distant from it. But it is the history of the goods, between their entrance and their exit, with which we have to do. Being received and unpacked, and checked off per invoice, they are consigned to the custody of one or other, according to their description, of twenty-seven different managers—that being the number of departments into which the establishment is divided. By them they are arranged and displayed in different apartments and galleries, for inspection by the retail traders and foreign agents; and, when purchased, are despatched to all parts of Britain and of the civilised world.

But we are as yet on the basement floor. Near the Receiving-room is the Private Order-room, where a couple of clerks preside for the registering of such orders as are given personally by tradesmen. Near that is the Travellers' Order-room, where the same number of clerks enter the orders received from a dozen or more travellers engaged in the provinces. Then comes the Town Entering-room, for the reception of town travellers' orders; the Shipping-room, for the entry of goods sent to all parts of the globe; the Country-room, for buyers from the country; and the Ready-money-room, which is, of course, a second Town-room. Then there is the Norwegian-room, two travellers being always on the *quai vive* in Norway, and sending home plenty of orders. Next we have a roomy area monopolised by the packing department, where we see a prodigious quantity of goods on the point of bidding farewell to St. Paul's churchyard. A peep into a sombre-looking vault, called the Fireproof-room, where sundry strong boxes repose, like coffins, behind an iron door, and we pass into the Calico-room, where we are up to the eyes in stacks of Manchester goods; and thence into the Linen-room, at once over head and ears in Irish, Scotch, and Yorkshire linens; and finish the basement floor in the Flannel-room, amid flannels enough to tuck up the whole Corporation of London, and leave plenty to spare.

This establishment being composed of two separate buildings, connected together by the underground floor, we must of necessity visit them one at a time, after ascending from the basement. Both divisions occupy the area of several entire houses. We ascend first into the older building, which escaped the ravages of the fire of last year. On the ground floor, level with the street, we find the Haberdashers' department, built up with every species of haberdashery; and an extensive fancy department, teeming with ornamental manufactures of every kind; which have given employment to workers in wood, in ivory, and in merocco, in brass, in leather, and in bronze; to cutlers, japanners, modellers, and carvers; and to the possessors of numberless ingenious arts and devices coming within no specific designation. Engravings from the works of the first modern masters crowd the walls, while everything fanciful for the drawing-room, the boudoir, or the toilet, is ranged on all sides in orderly abundance. Ascending to the first floor, we find that appropriated entirely to the cloth trade, and filled with the products of Yorkshire and the West of England, together with fabrics of a coarser texture from Germany. The second floor is allotted to the ready-made shirts and clothing, which latter department also extends into the third floor; a portion of which, as well as the whole of the fourth or topmost floor, is used for the depository and sale of furs.

Descending again to the basement, and passing under the banking-house of Messrs. Puget, Balafridge, and Co., which separates the two divisions of the establishment, we rise to the ground floor of the new house, catching, as we pass, a momentary vision of a row of clerks quietly at work, in a long gallery at the side. We are struck, as we ascend with the amplitude of the new building, which covers a large area, and with the perfect efficiency of the contrivance for securing abundance of light in every part. This is effected by a series of parallel glass windows, each some twelve by twenty feet in area, cut sheer through the successive floors, and admitting a flood of light from the sky. Taking into account that this erection had to be built downwards from the top—that it was, in a manner, designed as it proceeded, to meet certain sudden and awkward exigencies—it presents an extraordinary example of skill and success. The ground floor is occupied by the printed calicoes and muslins of Scotland and Manchester, and the stuffs from Bradford and elsewhere. Here, also, are the receiving-rooms for the deposit of goods manufactured in London for the house—to say nothing of a whole series of counting-houses. The first floor is set apart for Delaines and fancy dresses, Spitalfields silks, Manchester silks, French silks, French merinoes, and various fancy fabrics. On the second floor we meet with hosiery, gloves, bandannas, trimmings, a forest of umbrellas, and a prostrate plantation of parasols, besides accommodation for 10,000 of the fair sex, in the shape of stays. Rising to the third floor, we are in a paradise of exquisite colour, amid pyramids of "flowers of all hues, and without thorns, the rose," which, had we met with them in a Royal conservatory, we should never have taken for what they are, the artificial and imitative products of female industry. Here, too, are the marvellous productions of French taste, in ribbons of endless variety and exquisite design, together with the Coventry ribbons, which lag far in the rear of those of France. Here is the shawl department, in all its exuberance of design and colour, and both of home and foreign manufacture. Here are the lace rooms, the straw-plat rooms, and the mantle rooms, where ladies in full dress, but minus heads and feet, standing in graceful attitudes, accord the visitor a silent welcome.

If, from the upper part of either division of this huge mart, we go out upon the roof, we see it covered with broad tanks, supplied with water by the New River Company, which communicate by pipes with every floor; on each floor coils of hose are attached to the mains, and by means of these, which are accessible at any moment, a plentiful supply of water can be furnished instantly to any part of the building, so that, in fact, were it not for the panic that invariably ensues upon an alarm of fire, there would be in this vast structure, inflammable as are most of its contents, but little real danger in case of a fire occurring.

While wandering through such large accumulations of material wealth—where, perhaps, he sees a hundred thousand pounds' worth of goods in a single department—a stranger is apt to infer that such a monster speculation must necessarily involve the elements of confusion in the management. Nothing can be farther from the truth. So perfect is the system of accounts, so effectual the double check it ensures, that a mistake rarely occurs, and when it does occur, may be said to rectify itself; and, we have it from the best authority, that, so complete is the working of the entire machine, the head of the concern can, if he choose, on arriving any morning, have the whole multitudinous stock, even to the smallest minutiae, taken in a single day, and carry the account home with him at night!

Having thus looked at the commercial aspect of this establishment, we will now take a brief glance at its domestic accommodations. Our merchants have long been aware that "property has its duties as well as its rights," and it has been found out, too, that attention to such duties brings its own reward. Time was when employers cared nothing for the employed beyond the rigid exaction of service; that time has passed away, and now the employer finds it his interest to nourish and to cultivate the integrity and the intelligence, which are the components of good service. As a consequence, when we cross the street at the back of these business premises, and enter the domestic home of the employed, we find home comforts abounding, and the presence of everything inducing to self-respect and assisting to self-culture. We chance to come upon a hundred or so of young men in the act of dining, in a lofty, well-ventilated apartment, and pass a group of porters engaged in the same interesting ceremony in a separate room. We find an admirable library, well stocked with valuable works of the highest class of literature. In

the upper floors we pass through a suite of airy dormitories, where light and ventilation have been cared for, and cleanliness is the order of the day.

In the kitchen we are introduced to a novel species of cooking apparatus, of most formidable capabilities, by means of which frying and grilling, and boiling and steaming, and roasting are carried on upon a perfectly wholesale scale, without raising the temperature of the department beyond a few extra degrees. No fire is, in fact, visible; and though a dozen substantial joints are at this moment roasting, and our mouth waters instinctively at the odour, there is neither spit nor jack, nor unctuous cook-maid, with a fiery face; but, instead, a series of ornamental iron cabinets, which a remarkably cool *maitresse de cuisine* superintends with literal *sans froid*. She opens one of them, and within are half a dozen goodly joints, just roasted to a turn, without having turned once, being cooked in a state of quietude by the heat from hundreds of diminutive spurs of gas surrounding them on all sides. In other cabinets other viands are cooking by similar agency; and a large boiler, heated by the same means, generates steam for a series of steaming-kettles, available for various culinary purposes. Altogether, the apparatus is marvellously compact and efficient, and, we were given to understand, is decidedly economical.

Two things are especially remarkable in the aspects of this establishment, both commercial and domestic; these are the order which regulates operations in every department; and the cleanliness, amounting to the entire absence of anything like dust, soil, or dirt, which reigns in every square foot of the premises. Even in the stables this latter feature is predominant; and that the pains which ensure it are well bestowed, is evident from the admirable condition of the animals.

We must now turn our attention to a neighbouring establishment that of Messrs. Cook, Sons, and Co., standing but a stone's throw distance from the one we have just quitted. The imposing facade of this really magnificent building, which looks up towards Cheap-side, must be familiar to many of our readers. It is not, however, from without that a just idea can be formed of its architectural character. Unlike most of the large warehouses in the heart of London, it is not an assemblage of small buildings, incorporated from time to time to meet the exigencies of business, but a complete whole, admirably designed for the purpose to which it is applied, and finished throughout with a view to picturesqueness of effect, as well as to the conveniences of commerce. The edifice may be said to consist of three parts—the front warehouse, which looks into St. Paul's Churchyard; the back warehouse, which opens into Carter-lane; and the grand central warehouse, which connects the two together. On entering we are met by the same presence of abundant light, produced by similar means to those adopted in Messrs. Pawsen's new house, but carried out in a style of greater magnitude and more artistic proportions. In addition to the four-sided wells which pierce the several floors in various places, there is in the centre of the building a grand elliptical lantern, adorned with elegant friezes at the several stories, which admits a flood of light from the sky, illuminating every stage. The galleries are supported by slender Doric columns; and solid walls are superseded by lateral series of elegant arches, which, viewed from various points of elevation, present picturesque vistas suggestive of indefinite space and distance. This structure was erected by Mr. J. T. Knowles, and, in point both of design and execution, it leaves nothing to be desired. To most people, in fact, it would appear more like a *Walhalla* than a warehouse: the interior decorations are so chaste and simple, the lines that meet the eye are everywhere so graceful, and the colours employed, being chiefly a subdued white, broken with a light neutral tint, are so soft and unobtrusive, that the building, great as are its intrinsic merits, is subordinated to its purpose as the repository of the valuable and beautiful productions of human ingenuity and toil. Call it a *Walhalla* if you will, and you will but call it what it is—a temple, sacred, not to poetry and the arts, but to mechanical genius and industry.

In its internal economy, this establishment doubtless resembles very much the one we have already described; but of that we know nothing. We noticed, however, that the haulage and heavy work are done by a steam engine; and we rode from bottom to top through the successive floors in a moving chamber traversing a perpendicular shaft. On the roof are similar water-tanks, ready in case of fire, and appliances for the discharge of water tantamount to seventeen fire-engines are ever at hand on the premises. The whole fabric is warmed by steam, laid down in pipes beneath the floorings; and everywhere the same scrupulous cleanliness prevails which marks the perfection of order and business management.

Were we to extend our researches to Messrs. Groucock and Co.'s establishment in Bow Churchyard, we should find the same system of order and subdivision controlling the operations of a somewhat different line of business, the same facilities for the economy of time and labour, and evidences of the same growing appreciation of the indissoluble connection which exists between the interests of the employer and his responsible agents.

#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 26.—4th Sunday in Lent. Duke of Cambridge born, 1819. MONDAY, 27.—Peace of Amiens, 1802. Gunpowder introduced, 1380. TUESDAY, 28.—General Abercrombie died, 1801. WEDNESDAY, 29.—Siege of Acre, 1799. THURSDAY, 30.—Allied Sovereigns entered Paris, 1814. FRIDAY, 31.—Beethoven died, 1827. SATURDAY, April 1.—Ross' Expedition to the North Pole sailed, 1818.

#### HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 1.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
0 15	0 45	1 15	1 35	2 30	2 55	3 10
3 30	3 45	4 10	4 35	5 10	5 40	6 10

**THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.**—Monday and Wednesday, Guy Ransing, Meg Merrilies, Miss Cushman. Tuesday, Monday, Thursday and Saturday, Banquet. Friday, Henry VIII. Queen Katherine, Miss Cushman, her last night but two. Whisked and bye night every evening.

**ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.**—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Richard the Third. Tuesday, the Married Unmarried, and the Coxcomb. Thursday, the Married Unmarried, and the Lancers; Saturday, the Married, Unmarried, with other entertainments.

**ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.**—Brilliant success of ROMEO and JULIET. Romeo, Mrs. J. W. Wallack; Juliet, Miss Cleveland; Mercutio, Mr. J. W. Wallack. New Scenery, Dresses, and Appointments. Every Evening (Monday excepted). Due notice will be given of the most representation of the Struggle EDWARD MURRAY, Acting Manager.

**GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shore-ditch.**—ENGAGEMENT of Mr. T. MEAD, of Drury-lane; Mr. G. Wild, and Miss F. Williams. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, New Way to Pay Old Debt; on Friday, the Stranger. To be followed by Catchem Alive On; to be succeeded by the Barnum Children; to conclude with Blue Jackets.—Prices. Boxes, 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s. 6d., and 1s.; Pit, 6d., Gallery, 3d.

**MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BERNARD ORELAND and the SIMPLON, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock (except Saturday) and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Two o'clock, 3s. (which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven to Four); Area, 3s.; Gallery, 1s. Egyptian Mail, Piccadilly.**

**VENTRILOQUISM.—UNRIVALLED.—NEWMAN** and SON will deliver an entirely New, Characteristic, Vocalic, Mimic, Malformed, Manicured, Ubiquitous ENTERTAINMENT, on MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 27th, Horns, KENNINGTON; 29th, Lecture-hall, Deptford; 29th, Lecture-hall, Camberwell; 30th, Institute, Blackheath; 31st, Lecture-hall, Walworth. Admission, 2s. and 1s. Begin at Eight.

**MESSRS. GRIEVE and TELBIN** beg respectfully to announce that the DIORAMA of the OCEAN MAIL will positively CLOSE on SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, for the necessary preparation for a new subject of great interest, representing the Ruins of the British Army to the East of War, combined with the celebrated Overland Mail Diorama, which has been entirely renovated for the present occasion.—Royal Gallery of Illustration, 14, Regent-street.

**CONSTANTINOPLE at the EGYPTIAN HALL is NOW OPEN** every Day, at Half-past Two o'clock, and every Evening at Eight. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. Charles Kennedy or Mr. J. H. Stouckier, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Shirley Brooks. Admission 1s.; reserved seats, 2s.

**DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM is NOW OPEN, at the SALLE ROBIN, Piccadilly.** For Gentlemen, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. On Wednesdays and Fridays the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five. Gentlemen are still admitted on those days from Eleven till Two, and from Seven till Ten.—Admission, 1s.

**EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of BRITISH ARTISTS.**—Incorporated by Royal Charter.—The THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, from Nine a.m. until dusk. Admission, 1s. Suffolk-street, Pall-Mall East. ALFRED CLINT Hon. Secretary.

**ST. MARTIN'S HALL.**—Miss BIRCH has the honour to announce that her GRAND BENEFIT CONCERT, with Orchestra complete in every department, will be given next TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 28, under the direction of Mr. John Hulsh. Tickets, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 7s.

**MISS EMMA BUSBY'S CHAMBER CONCERT, WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 29th.** Tickets, 1s. 6d.—Guinea, at the Muscicellers; and of Miss Busby, 18, Upper Gloucester-place, Dorset-square.

**ERNST.**—This eminent Violinist will make his FIRST APPEARANCE these three years at the fourth MUSICAL WINTER EVENING, WILLIS'S ROOMS, on THURSDAY NEXT. J. ELLA.

**BACH SOCIETY.**—The First Performance in this Country of the GROSSE PASSIONS-MUSIK, composed by JOHN SEBASTIAN BACH, will be given by the above Society, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 6th, commencing at Eight o'clock. Conductor, Mr. W. STERNDALE BENNETT. Tickets, Five Shillings each, may be obtained of all the principal Muscicellers.

**ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's Park.**—Fellows and Visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT ANT-EATERS, and an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS have been added to the Collection. Admission, 1s. Monday, 6d.

**NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, 14, Moorgate-street, London.**—The Tottenham Estate will be READY for SALE on MONDAY, the 27th inst. Members entitled to priority of choice will have the option of choosing in their order from the estate on the 27th, 28th and 29th inst.

Should any lots be left after that time, they may be taken by any person paying the price, or paying or purchasing the right to borrow the money; and if the whole should not be sold during the first week, the remaining lots may be taken by any person on payment of ten per cent, and the balance, with interest, within twelve months. Persons not having rights of their own, but wishing to obtain early choices, can do so by purchasing the rights of others, and a register of rights offered for sale with prices is kept at the office. Plans, with conditions of sale, may be had on application.—March 16, 1854.—W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.

**COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, and 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, London.** Established in 1805.

The Rates of Premium charged by the County Fire Office are upon the lowest scale consistent with Security to the Insured. When a Policy has existed for a period of Seven Years, a return of 25 per cent, or one-fourth of the amount of premiums paid during that period, is declared upon such policy. The Returns paid to the present time amount to nearly £200,000.

All Losses are settled with promptitude and liberality. It is respectfully notified to parties holding Policies in this office, the renewals of which fall due at Ladyday, that the same should be paid on or before the 9th of April. The receipts are lying at the offices in London, and in the hands of the several agents.

CHARLES STEVENS, Secretary.

**THE CHARTERED BANK of INDIA, AUSTRALIA, and CHINA.**—The Subscribers, Allottees, and Scrip-holders, who are opposed to this Bank being for the proceeds with, are requested to forward, without delay, to Messrs. ATKINSON and FILCHIM, Solicitors, Church-court, Lombard, London, the number and particulars of the Shares and Scrip held by them respectively, it being desirable that the Committee appointed at the Meeting held at the London Tavern on the 16th instant, should be put in possession of this information as soon as possible.

The Committee take this opportunity of stating that, although the call of £3 per Share, declared by the directors, is payable this day, no forfeiture of Shares can be taken place until the expiration of one Calendar Month, previous to which time an adjourned Meeting will be held, of which due Notice will be given.—16th March, 1854.

**STEAM to AUSTRALIA, carrying her Majesty's Mails.**—The General Screw Steam Shipping Company's celebrated Iron Steam-ship, QUEEN OF THE SOUTH, 1600 tons (Captain NORMAN), will sail from Southampton for Adelaide, Port Phillip, and Sydney, punctually on the 4th APRIL. This splendid vessel—having been one of the Company's favourite vessels on the Indian line, and noted for her very superior accommodations—offers an excellent opportunity to intending Passengers. The Queen of the South has accomplished her passages between Southampton and India with the greatest punctuality, thereby justifying the anticipation that she will make one of the fastest runs to Australia on record. Passage money, from 50 to 100 guineas. For plans and full particulars, apply to Messrs. GRINDLAY and CO., 124, Bishopsgate-street; or 9, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross.

\*. Several articles of interest are unavoidably omitted from the present Number.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1854.

The money and intrigues of Russia, though unsuccessful in procuring friends for the Czar in civilised Europe, have been to some extent successful among the semi-barbarians of modern Greece. The insurrection fomented by Russian agents continues to spread in Albania and Epirus, and seems to be openly encouraged by the Government of King Otho. It will become the immediate duty of the allies of Turkey to aid the efforts of the Sultan in extinguishing this revolt. The foolish sentimentalism that, thirty years ago, led France and England to act with Russia in the establishment of a Grecian kingdom, has long since died away. People are, by this time, pretty generally convinced that it was a gross anachronism to revive the name of Greece for a country whose inhabitants possess none of the virtues or characteristics, and but little of the blood, of the ancient people who formerly inhabited it. But the error as regards true policy has proved even greater than the anachronism. Under the Government of King Otho, Modern Greece has not only brought discredit upon its former patrons, but has proved itself unworthy to rank among the civilised Powers of Europe. That such a Government should be permitted to complicate the affairs of the world at a moment like the present is not to be tolerated. We can fully understand why, under Russian protection, King Otho and his piratical subjects should do their best to gain possession of Albania and Epirus; and we can imagine that a "private and confidential" correspondence, between the Czar and the Court of Athens, may have long ago settled when this insurrection was to break out; to what extent the King was either secretly or openly to encourage it; and that equivalent rewards were promised him, as the price of his complicity. But the Western Allies are fortunately in a position to defeat any such projects, if they exist, as well as to co-operate with the Sultan, in restoring peace in the disaffected portions of his dominions. When military officers, high in the service of King Otho, assume the command of large bodies of insurgents, and invade the Turkish territory without resigning their rank or their pay in the Greek army, and without any public disavowal of their conduct on the part of their Sovereign, King Otho and his Government become their accomplices, and will justly be held responsible for all the evils that may ensue. The insurrection in Albania will be easily quelled, if it be not aided by the predatory hordes of the neighbouring kingdom; and the allies will act a merciful part towards King Otho, by letting him understand at once that the slightest attempt on his part to aid the insurgents will be summarily and condignly punished by the fleets and armies of France and England. Greece is vulnerable on every side, and the possession of Athens would cost the allies but little trouble. King Otho, and the Russianized German Court by whom he is surrounded, have not governed Greece in such a manner as to make friends even among the Greeks themselves. Independence has done nothing for the Greeks; and the re-annexation of the country to Turkey, if it effected no change for the better in their condition, would not sensibly operate for the worse. King Otho has already had a specimen of the manner in which Great Britain can punish duplicity and breach of faith. The remembrance of his former humiliation should have taught him to beware how he braved a second time the just retribution of this country.

That war produces many evils is a fact which has been often stated, and as often deplored. But war also is the parent of some benefits and virtues. It produces fortitude, courage, self-reliance



THE COURT.

and patriotism. The time of war is one in which self-sacrifice is a pleasure to some, and a duty to all. The individual who would cheat or rob his country in a time of peace, hesitates at committing such an atrocity during a war. It is only the vilest of the vile who betray their country in the hour of difficulty. The deserter meets with no sympathy, and the man who becomes a spy, and sells his country to the enemy, is abhorred by everybody, even by those who employ him. And what shall be said of the trader who contracts to supply his Government with wholesome food or necessities for the army or navy at a reasonable price, and wilfully foists unwholesome or abominable trash upon them instead of the article which he undertook to furnish? Such a man deserves not only the epithets of "miscreant" and "criminal," which Lord Ellenborough, the Duke of Newcastle, and other Peers, have showered upon him, but the severest punishment that an offended nation can inflict. Such a case has unhappily occurred within the last few days, and has elicited the disgust and indignation of the whole country. The subject was brought under the notice of the House of Lords on Tuesday night by the Earl of Ellenborough. It appears that a person who gave the name of Sturges (which was perhaps an assumed one), contracted to supply the British Government with a quantity of pressed hay for the service of the Artillery horses destined to be employed in the war on the Danube. A portion of this hay had been shipped before it was discovered that the trusses were merely external coatings of hay, and that the insides were formed of straw, shavings, refuse, and even offal. It was furthermore discovered that the trusses had been wetted so as to increase their weight, by which means a risk was incurred of spontaneous combustion on board ship. It is enough to make an Englishman blush for his country that such a fraud should have been perpetrated at such a time. If the knave had been a Russian, though the fraud might have been as great, the disgrace would not have been so intolerable. If he had owed allegiance to any Sovereign on the globe except to the Sovereign of these isles, the people might have found some degree of comfort in the reflection that he was an alien. If, as is feared, the criminal law cannot reach such an offender, it is more than enough to make an Englishman wonder at the short-sightedness of our law-makers. We trust, however, that this nefarious trader—if he be not the last of his kind—will be the last who shall escape the severest punishment which it is advisable to inflict. His offence, if it had not been discovered in time, might have endangered the safety of one valuable arm of the British service; and might even have led to the failure, more or less complete, of military manoeuvres, on which the fortune of the campaign depended. Words can scarcely express the detestation with which such an offence must be regarded. We do not agree with the noble Lords who considered that the publication of the man's name to the abhorrence of his countrymen would be a sufficient punishment. To men of honour such a punishment seems too great for endurance; but persons who commit crime have thick hides, and can bear an immense amount of obloquy. It is likely enough that if a ragged urchin in the streets had robbed this delinquent of his pocket-handkerchief, he would have felt himself bound, as a "respectable man," to prosecute the offender as a warning to other reprobates of his class. We earnestly hope that the law will be found elastic enough to reach a case infinitely more dastardly and mischievous. If it be not, the greatest amends that this contractor, whatever his name may be, can render his country, will be to betake himself to St. Petersburg, and to remain there. Certain we are, in the present temper of Parliament and the people, he will be luckier, if he escape, than any other person who shall hereafter imitate his example in his dealings with the British nation.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

**PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.**—*Rectories:* The Rev. W. St. L. Aldworth to West Barham, Norfolk; Rev. J. Baille to Faughar, Rev. H. Beckwith to St. Mary, Bishopscote, York; Rev. P. Brett to Mount Bures, Essex; Rev. M. H. S. Champeys, to Epperstone, Notts; Rev. L. Dowdall, to Rathfarnham, Dublin; Rev. H. Dowson to Horstead, near Lewes; Rev. T. Harrison to Newchurch, Kent; Rev. J. Healey to Redmille; Rev. R. Hensman to Brompton Ralph, Somerset; Rev. A. Hill to Charsfield, Gloucestershire; Rev. W. Lempriere to South Warborough, Hampshire; Rev. N. B. Milnes to Colley Weston, Northamptonshire; Rev. H. Morgan to St. Athan, Glamorganshire; Rev. G. Parker to Tepledoran, Cloyne; Rev. C. L. Pemberton to Curry Malet, Wilts; Rev. W. T. Freedy to Kittisford, Somerset; Rev. J. C. Rowlett to St. Paul, Exeter; Rev. G. Whitlock to Milton Bryant, Bedfordshire; Rev. W. L. Newham, Hackford, Norfolk. *Vicarages:* The Rev. C. H. Awdry to Seagry, Wilts; Rev. H. C. Grey to Warling, Sussex; Rev. J. R. Jones to Burghill, near Hereford; Rev. W. Hamilton to Scalford, Leicestershire; Rev. S. W. Maul to Brainford, with Bursell annexed, near Ipswich; Rev. H. Roundell to Buckingham. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. T. Banner to the new church of the Holy Innocents, Liverpool; Rev. I. Bowman to Walton, Cumberland; Rev. D. W. Davies to Llaneltyd, Monmouthshire; Rev. J. H. Dodsworth to Manningtree, Essex; Rev. J. Hayes to Colebrookdale, Shropshire; Rev. A. Headlam to Whorlton, near Darlington.

**TESTIMONIALS.**—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. J. Fox, by the members of St. John's Church, previous to his leaving Whitby for the Vicarage of Hedon, near Hull; the Rev. R. H. Heap, Curate of Great Horton, near Bradford, Yorkshire, as a token of respect and affection from the Sunday-school and friends; the Rev. T. Harrison, Incumbent of Trinity Church, Maidstone, by the Church Schoolmasters' Association of that town; the Rev. T. Reddall, Senior Curate of the parish of Stoke-upon-Trent, by his parishioners, on his resignation; the Rev. G. F. Greene, late President of St. John the Evangelist, Knotty Ash, by the congregation of that church; the Rev. J. Batterby, prior to his leaving Huddersfield for Whitechapel, near Hull, by the teachers of the Trinity Church Schools; the Rev. H. Harries, by the members of the Bible class, on the occasion of his leaving Darlington; the Rev. J. G. Lonsdale, by the members of Bishop Otfield's Hall, Durham; the Rev. G. Mockler, on his being appointed one of the chaplains to the troops under orders to the East, by the congregation of St. George's-in-the-East.

**THE VACANT JUDGESHIP.**—Mr. Crowder has been appointed to the seat upon the bench vacant by the death of Mr. Justice Talfourd. This appointment creates a vacancy in the representation of Liskeard.

**FUNERAL OF MR. JUSTICE TALFOURD.**—The mortal remains of the late Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd were removed from his late residence in Russell-square, for interment at the Cemetery, Norwood, on Monday. In the first carriage following the hearse were the three sons of the deceased—Francis Talfourd, William Talfourd, and Thomas Noon Talfourd, and Mr. P. Talfourd, his brother. The second carriage contained Mr. Paterson Rutt, Mr. Northcote Rutt, Mr. John Salter, and Mr. William Salter, his brothers-in-law. In the remaining carriages were several of his private friends. The only private carriage that followed the cortege were the deceased's private carriage, and the carriages of Mr. Justice Wightman, Mr. Baron Platt, Mr. Charles Kean, and Mr. Bickereth, R.A.

**THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY.**—Tuesday evening, being the fifty-third anniversary of Sir Ralph Abercromby's victory and glorious death, the Highland Society held a high festival, at the Freemason's Tavern, in honour of the event; the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon in the chair.

The birthday of the Princess Louisa occurring on Saturday last, the Duchess of Kent paid a visit of congratulation to her Majesty at an early hour. In the afternoon her Majesty visited the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House. In the evening the Queen had a dinner-party, which included the Duchess of Kent, the Bavarian Minister, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Seymour, Lady Fanny Howard, the Baroness de Speth, Lord and Lady Claud Hamilton, Lord and Lady Alfred Hervey, Major-General Sir Richard England, and Colonel Wyld.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley officiated.

On Monday the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, rode out on horseback. The Princesses Helena and Louisa visited the Zoological Gardens, in the Regent's park, during the forenoon. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the guests including the Duchess of Kent, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Duchess of Sutherland, Madame Tricoupi, the Neapolitan Minister and Princess de Cariri, the Earl and Countess of Derby, the Earl and Countess of Desart, the Earl and Countess of Lucan, Lord and Lady de Ros, and Major-General Sir de Lacy Evans.

On Tuesday the Queen, attended by the Hon. Matilda Paget, Viscount Torrington, and Captain the Hon. Charles Grey, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester. Her Majesty received visits from the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Levee. Lord de Tabley and Lieut.-General Sir Edward Bowater have succeeded Lord Waterpark and the Hon. Mortimer West, as the Lord and Groom in Waiting on her Majesty.

The Court, it is understood, will return to Windsor, for the Easter holidays, on Saturday, the 15th proximo.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee (the third this season) on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, arrived from Buckingham Palace at two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards. Her Majesty wore a train of white and gold moiré antique silk, brocaded with white flowers, and trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon to correspond with the train. The Queen's head-dress was a diamond circlet. Among the more noticeable presentations were the following:—The Marquis of Lothian, by the Marquis of Salisbury. The Earl of Kenmare, on coming to his title, by the Marquis of Lansdowne. Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, on promotion, by Earl Spencer. Lord Esfield, by the Marquis of Breadalbane. Sir A. Fenneman, on proceeding to his Barony, by the Earl of Aberdeen. Sir John Ogilvy, Bart., by the Marquis of Breadalbane. Major-General Sir Richard England, on his departure for foreign service, by Viscount Hardinge. Lieut. Hon. L. Curzen, on appointment to the Staff, by General Lord Raglan. Colonel Burkall Esquire, on appointment to be Brigadier-General and Deputy-Adjutant-General to the Army of the East, by Viscount Hardinge. Captain B. O'Brien, Secretary to the First Lord of the Admiralty, on return from abroad, by Sir J. Graham. Mr. Alderman Morn, on his appointment as one of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Middlesex, by the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester continues to improve in health daily, and her medical attendants have great hope that she will shortly be convalescent.

His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski gave a grand dinner on Tuesday evening, at Albert-gate, the new residence of the French Embassy, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Raglan, preparatory to their departure to join the expeditionary army in the East.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston gave a grand banquet on Saturday evening to his Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, his Excellency the Danish Minister, his Excellency the Portuguese Minister and the Countess Lavradio, and a distinguished circle. His Lordship has been suffering from an attack of gout this week.

Lord John Russell has been indisposed this week, with a cold, but is now better.

Lady Mary Wood had an assembly on Thursday evening, in Chesham-place.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
Mar. 17	30.369	55.3	32.1	43.7	+ 2.0	68	N.	0.01
" 18	30.155	54.0	28.5	40.5	- 1.3	91	N.W.	0.22
" 19	29.904	42.3	28.0	37.5	- 4.4	97	N.E.	0.17
" 20	30.304	45.0	32.3	36.8	- 5.2	96	N.	0.00
" 21	30.316	52.9	35.0	42.6	+ 0.5	75	N.W.	0.00
" 22	30.494	51.1	31.5	40.5	- 1.7	80	N.W.	0.00
" 23	30.391	52.2	38.6	44.1	+ 1.8	76	N.N.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign - below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.37 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.99 inches by the morning of the 19th; increased to 30.32 inches by the morning of the 21st; and decreased to 30.29 inches by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.49 inches by the 22nd, and decreased to 30.35 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 32 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.262 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 40.8°, being 1.2° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 26.8°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 17th, and the lowest on the 19th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 17.0°. The greatest was 25.5° on the 18th; and the least 6.3° on the 19th.

Rain fell on three days during the week, to the depth of four-tenths of an inch.

The weather, on the 17th, 21st, and 23rd was fine, and the sky tolerably free from cloud. The rest of the week was cold and dull. The wind throughout the week has been almost constantly north.

Lewisham, March 24, 1854.

JAMES GLAISHER.

**HEALTH OF LONDON.**—In the week ending Saturday, March 18, the births of 1764 children were registered: 883 were boys, and 881 were girls. The averages of the same week in the nine corresponding years were 764 and 747 respectively. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1185: of these, 606 were males, and 582 females.

**PRESIDENT OF CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.**—On Thursday the Governors of this ancient institution met for the purpose of choosing a new President, in the place of the late Alderman Thompson. The Lord Mayor Sidney was proposed by Mr. Hoare, and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge by Mr. Hankey, M.P. At three o'clock the glasses for the ballot were closed, and the numbers declared as follow:—For the Duke of Cambridge, 216; for the Lord Mayor, 87; majority, 129. The proceedings then closed.

**LONDON PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, MOOREFIELDS.**—On Thursday the directors of this institution issued their annual report, which states that the money transactions in the course of the year 1853 numbered 78,368, and that the increase in the amount of balances due to depositors was £15,782 7s. 11d.

**ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.**—On Thursday the half-yearly court of this charity was held at the London Tavern. The report stated that, though the year's expenditure, owing to the state of the markets, had been greater than that of the previous year by £164 5s. 8d., yet it was most satisfactory to state that the income also showed an increase of £2111 14s. 6d.; leaving a balance at the end of the year of £734 0s. 11d. The patients during the past season numbered 643.

**PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT, 1850.**—With the view of ascertaining the difficulties and impediments which prevent the adoption of the provisions of the Act 13 and 14 Victoria, chapter 65, "for enabling Town Councils to establish Public Libraries and Museums," the Society of Acts has just issued a set of queries to the town-clerks of all boroughs included in the act. The points on which information is particularly requested are, whether the amount of the rate, one halfpenny per pound per annum, is sufficient, and whether the rate should be limited to the provision of the building, fixtures, &c., or be extended to the purchase of books, specimens, &c.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Irish Excise still continues on a large scale. The *Waterford News* says, "The Marquis of Waterford is exceedingly short of workmen on his farms."

A company is about to be started at Paris to run pleasure trains, *vid* Marseilles, to Constantinople, at a charge of 300 francs.

A conference of medical and scientific men in Birmingham is spoken of, to consider the systematic and alarming adulterations of food, and articles of general consumption.

The Duke of Buccleuch is erecting a range of first-class dwellings at Eckford, in Roxburghshire, to be occupied by the day labourers and others on his estate.

The aggregate receipts from all sources of traffic, by all the railways in the United Kingdom, during the first six months of 1852, amounted to £7,190,551 3s. 9d.; and during the corresponding half-year of 1853, to £8,184,066 8s. 5d.

The total number of persons employed by the railways already opened, of the United Kingdom, in the first half of 1853, was 80,409; of whom 66,267 were employed in England and Wales, 8979 in Scotland, and 5163 in Ireland.

The French Council of State is now examining a project of law, by which prepaid letters are to be carried to any part of France for four sous. Unpaid letters are to pay six sous.

Mr. Latrobe, Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, was expected to leave Melbourne for England in January.

Mrs. Chisholm sails by the *Ballarat* on the 4th April, for Australia, having been disappointed in the ship which was to have conveyed her, with a large party of female emigrants.

The tenders received for the construction of the new Westminster-bridge are as follows:—Myers, £305,000; Crawshaw, £275,000; Mare, £201,000.

The balance of the debt against Prince Edward Island, which in 1850 was £28,579, is now only £3028; and the revenue, which in 1849 was £18,615, had risen in 1853 to £35,345, including £2800, the produce of an education rate.

Within about three months six fires in New York have destroyed buildings and their contents to the value of between five and six millions of dollars.

Lord Bateman has accepted the chairmanship of the Shrewsbury and Birmingham Railway Company, vacant by the decease of Robert Clive, Esq., M.P.

Paris is being supplied now in considerable quantities by rice grown in the south of France. It is considerably less in price, and the quality is good, in fact they report better than the rice of Piedmont and India.

The gross receipts, for 1853, of the Duchy of Cornwall amounted to £37,358. After deducting the amount of salaries, repairs, and other expenses, and leaving a balance of £6000 in hand, the sum of £37,358 was paid over to the Trustees and Treasurer of the Prince of Wales, who is Duke of Cornwall.

The Dublin committee have approved of the model furnished by Mr. Christopher Moore for the bronze statue, to be erected in honour of Thomas Moore.

At Ivy Tor Consols, Cornwall, the miners have dug into a "chamber of crystals, as varied for beauty as the scenes in the late Crystal Palace."

At Panama a new steam company has been got up under the name of the "Central America and New Grenada Steam Navigation Company," for the purpose of opening up trade with the ports of Central America.

The preparations for the French Grand Exhibition are actively continued. As Prince Napoleon, the President of the Commission, is about to leave France on foreign service, it is expected that the Minister of State will succeed him.

An attempt had been made at St. Domingo to assassinate the President, and a conspiracy has also been discovered to burn and destroy the town of St. Jago.

English cotton shirts, on which the concise contents of the Koran are roughly printed in blue, are now selling in the Turkish camp. They are eagerly bought up at tenfold their value, as the Turkish soldiers attach to those talismanic extracts the gift of making the wearer invulnerable in battle.

The four liberated slaves from Cuba, on their way to Liberia, have left Southampton for London, where free passages on board the West Coast of Africa steamer *Faith* have been taken for them by order of the Government.

Of the 14,077 churches in England and Wales, there are only 732 churches that are open three times on a Sunday; and 4740 which are open only once on a Sunday.

The Panama railroad is now open to Obispo, which obviates the necessity of any more boating on the Chagres river. The whole of the Panama railway will be opened by the 1st of August next.

Cowell, Grimshaw, Gallaher, Lang, Gardner, Wood, and Brocklehurst, the Preston delegates, have been committed to take their trial at the Liverpool assizes, but have been liberated on bail.

Prince Oscar, the son of the Prince Royal of Sweden and of her Royal Highness the Princess Louise of the Netherlands, died at Stockholm on the 13th inst., at the age of fifteen months.

The young King of Portugal is expected shortly at the hotel of the Portuguese Legation in Brussels.

The statue of Gustavus Adolphus, which was some time since cast on shore on Heligoland, from a wreck, has been purchased by the Senate of Bremen for 6000 marks, and will be shortly erected in the market-place of that city.

Mr. Ewart has obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Libraries Act. The principal scope of the new measure is to place the power of founding town libraries on the same footing as that of founding baths and wash-houses.

The Mayor of Genoa has issued a circular to all the families of that city, requesting them to forward to him the names of all their relations that fell in 1848 and 1849, fighting for Italian independence. These names are to be engraved on a marble slab, to be placed in the Civic Palace.

Alsace has lately been overrun by an immense number of field mice, which have caused much damage. By the use of a mouse-trap of a particular kind, 15,315 of these animals were caught in thirty-six days, on a surface of fifty acres.

There is every appearance of the Madeira vine crop being blighted again this season.

The *Messagere di Modena* states that it is the intention of the Commander-in-Chief of the French forces at Rome to establish an entrenched camp near Civita Vecchia, with a view to fortify that place on the land side.

The weather, which for some weeks had been precociously warm and pleasant in Belgium, has suddenly resumed its winter severity, and snow has again fallen in various localities.

The Turkish loan for £2,000,000 has been taken by Messrs. Rothschild. The price is 84, the stock to be reimbursed at par in fifteen years from the date of issue, and it will pay nearly nine per cent on these terms.

In the Lenten Indult just issued from Rome by Cardinal Wiseman, he enjoins "that, as soon as war shall be publicly announced, there shall be inserted in the prayer recited after mass on Sunday for our Majesty the Queen, the clause (for forty years omitted) 'that she may conquer her enemies.'"

The streets of Paris are inundated with songs calculated to stir up the warlike spirit of France against Russia. The *zar* and the *Cossacks* are held up as demons, and even Nicholas himself is painted in colours which might make him be taken for his namesake. The whole of these songs are sanctioned by the Minister of the Interior, and each copy bears the stamp of his office.

The French Government proposes to despatch a special fast steamer from Marseilles to Constantinople every five days, to convey couriers and official despatches for the joint Governments.

Official portraits of the Emperor and Empress of the French have been painted by Winterhalter, to serve as models. They are now in the Louvre, and are said to be excellent likenesses.

The *Alta California* says, a specimen of the zoology of that country, in the shape of an animal allied to the porcupine, "twenty-two feet in length!" was lately sent to the San Francisco Academy of Natural Science.

In consequence of the Convention concluded between Austria and Piedmont, the telegraph lines of the two countries have just been connected at Buffalora. The telegraphs of the Pontifical States are now in direct communication with Piedmont, through Milan.

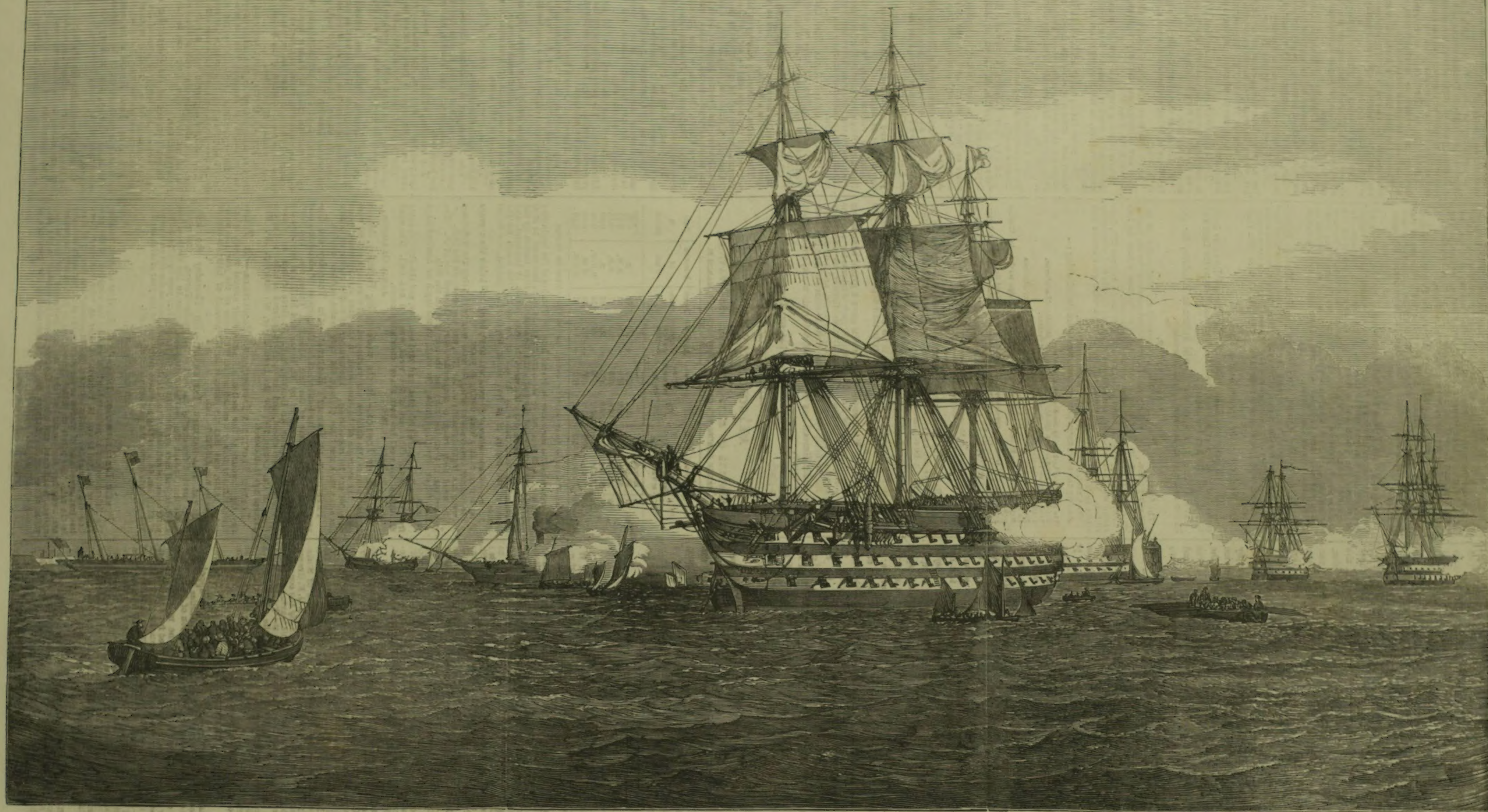
The *New York Herald* states, some very rich guano islands have lately been discovered in the Caribbean Sea.

General Giulay, the military Governor of Lombardy, has seized upon all the money belonging to the sequestrated properties of the emigrants.

Cere has been taken for the wants of the Highlanders at Malta, An Inverness spirit merchant has received orders to ship a quantity of old Highland whisky to the Mediterranean.

The committee of the Maryland Senate have unanimously reported against the proposed prohibitory liquor bill.





H.M.S. "NEPTUNE."—REAR-ADMIRAL CORRY SALUTING THE QUEEN, AND GETTING UNDER WAY.



# REAR-ADMIRAL CORRY'S DEPARTURE FOR THE BALTIC.

On Thursday week, as we stated in a portion of last Saturday's publication, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, Princess Helena, and Princess Louisa, visited Admiral Corry's squadron, lying at Spithead; immediately after which it was expected that the whole of the ships at the anchorage would have got under way, and have proceeded to the Baltic. The ships, six in number, which formed the squadron at Spithead, were the *Neptune*, 120; *Cæsar*, 91; *Prince Regent*, 90; *Boscawen*, 70; *Frolic*, 16; and *Bull Dog*, 6. With the exception, however, of the *Neptune* and the *Bull Dog*, none of the ships were ready for sea. The *Cæsar*, not having her guns on board, was engaged in refitting her rigging; while the *Boscawen* and the *Prince Regent* had not made up the complements of their crews. At half-past ten on Thursday morning the Royal yachts, *Fairy* and *Elfin*, left Cowes Harbour, and proceeded to the anchorage. Immediately on their arriving within a couple of miles of the *Neptune*, the latter opened a Royal salute, which was taken up by the *Prince Regent*, 90, Captain Smith; *Boscawen*, 70, Captain Glenville; and *Frolic*, 16, Commander Nolloth. The *Neptune* and *Bull-dog*, paddle-frigate, Captain W. H. Hall, then weighed—the former under topsails and top-gallant sails, and ultimately royals; the latter under steam. The *Neptune's* sails were set as if by a simultaneous movement effected by machinery. At one moment she lay at anchor with all sails furled, and not the slightest indication of a movement; the next, down fell every stitch at once, and she wore round like a cutter, and stood majestically away for the Downs, followed by her smaller steam consort, whom she outstripped while yet inside the Nab. The splendid manner in which this ship was handled exceeded anything which has been witnessed at Spithead for some time, and reflects great credit on Captain Hutton and his excellent crew. There is probably no large ship in commission at the present moment which has a finer crew than Admiral Corry's flag ship; the greater portion of the men are from the *Prince Regent*, and so highly is Captain Hutton respected that he would have had no difficulty in obtaining a much larger number of hands for his ship, had they been required.

The *Neptune* got away at eleven o'clock, with top-sails, topgallant sails, royals, and jib, in admirable style. This being her first trip, her conduct under canvas was watched with considerable interest, and her performance fully realised every expectation formed of her; and, notwithstanding the immense weight of stores which she takes out, the ship made excellent way. The *Fairy* followed the *Neptune* out for some distance; and signal being made that she was about to part company, the rigging was manned, and what was considered the parting cheer was given. The same daring and exuberant enthusiasm which manifested itself on Saturday on board the *Duke*, was displayed on this occasion, and on the giddy top of the main, fore, and mizen trucks, was perched a tar who, holding one hand aloft and with the other wildly waving his hat, expressed alike his daring and his loyalty.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, from the deck of the *Fairy*, acknowledged Jack's enthusiastic loyalty—the Queen by waving her handkerchief, and the Prince his hat. Her Majesty, however, appeared unwilling to part company with the gallant crew, and proceeded with the noble ship a short distance outside the Nab, notwithstanding a fresh gale which was blowing, and the roughness of the water. A large war steamer appearing in the distance, her Majesty ordered the "demand signal" to be run up; and received, in reply, that it was the *Penelope*, a fine paddle-steamer from the coast of Africa. Her Majesty is fully conversant with the code of signals, and on board the Royal yachts not unfrequently takes that department under her own management, selecting and reading the signals with as much promptitude and accuracy as many of her own officers. Having ascertained the name of the *Penelope*, the *Fairy* wore round, at a quarter to twelve, and for the third time the *Neptune* manned her rigging, and gave a loud, a long, and an enthusiastic parting hurrah—her Majesty still lingering on the spot, as though reluctant to leave the good ship. Passing the *Bull-dog*, which accompanied the *Neptune*, and the anchorage, on her way to Osborne, the ships once more manned the rigging, and cheered her Majesty, who arrived at Osborne shortly before one o'clock.



REAR-ADMIRAL CORRY, COMMANDER OF THE SECOND DIVISION OF THE BALTIC FLEET.—FROM A DAGUERRETYPE BY MAYALL.

The *Neptune* and *Bull-dog* were under orders to anchor in the Downs till next day, and wait orders and despatches, when they sailed, to join the other portions of the fleet at Kiel Bay.

## REAR-ADMIRAL ARMAR LOWRY CORRY.

We abridge from O'Byrne's valuable "Naval Biographical Dictionary" the following brief Memoir of the Commander of the Second Division of the Baltic Fleet:—

This officer entered the navy, as a first-class volunteer, in August, 1805, on board the *Diadem*, Captain Sir Home Popham; and, after assisting in the operations against the Cape of Good Hope and Buenos Ayres, returned to England, as a midshipman in the *Sampson*, Captain W. Cuming, in May, 1807. In the ensuing bombardment of Copenhagen, he was on board the *Leda*; and was afterwards wrecked, on the January 31, 1808, near the entrance of Milford Haven. The *Warspite*, 74, was his next ship; and in her he served, on the home and Mediterranean stations, till he obtained his commission as Lieutenant, on the 28th April, 1812. Mr. Corry, during the years 1812, 1813, and 1814, served in the *Nereus* and *Montagu*; and, on the 28th May, in the *Impregnable*, 98, flag-ship of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence (afterwards William IV.), he escorted to England the Emperor of Russia (Alexander) and the King of Prussia. Lieut. Corry afterwards served in the *Tay*, 24;

and was promoted to the rank of Commander in 1815. He sailed for the East Indies, in October, 1820, in command of the *Satellite* 18; and in the July of the next year he became Flag-Captain to Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Blackwood, who was an old and esteemed friend, and with whom he continued until he was invalided home in the *Samarang*, in February, 1822. In April, 1835, Captain Corry took command of the *Barham*, 50, and in that ship conveyed the late Earl of Durham to Constantinople. He afterwards took charge of a squadron on the east coast of Spain; and obtained the thanks of the Queen of Spain, her Ministers, &c., for his exertions in landing with the various ships companies under his orders, and in serving the cities of Barcelona and Valencia, for her Majesty. From 1839 to 1844, Captain Corry was on half pay; but in September 7th, he was appointed to the *Firebrand* steam-frigate; and in December of the same year, he was transferred to the *Superb*, 80, to take charge of various ships in experimental cruises. Captain Corry obtained his flag as Rear-Admiral, on the 8th of March, 1852; and was appointed to the command of the cruising squadron which went to the Tagus on the recent death of the Queen of Portugal. On his return he was appointed second in command of the Baltic fleet, and his flag as Rear-Admiral of the White is now flying on board the *Neptune*.

## KRONBORG CASTLE, ELSINEUR.

This important fortress is situated on the north-east point of the island of Zealand, in Denmark. It was erected about 1580, in the reign of Frederick II.; the style is Gothic, and the material white stone. The Castle is surrounded by fortifications of a comparatively modern construction, the powerful guns of which sweep the Sound of the Baltic in all directions.

On the opposite coast is the Swedish town of Helsingborg, distant about three miles; and the two places form most formidable objects of annoyance to an enemy entering or leaving by this highway the Baltic. In 1801 the British fleet, under Sir Hyde Parker, with Nelson second in command, forced this passage of the Sound previous to the bombardment of Copenhagen.

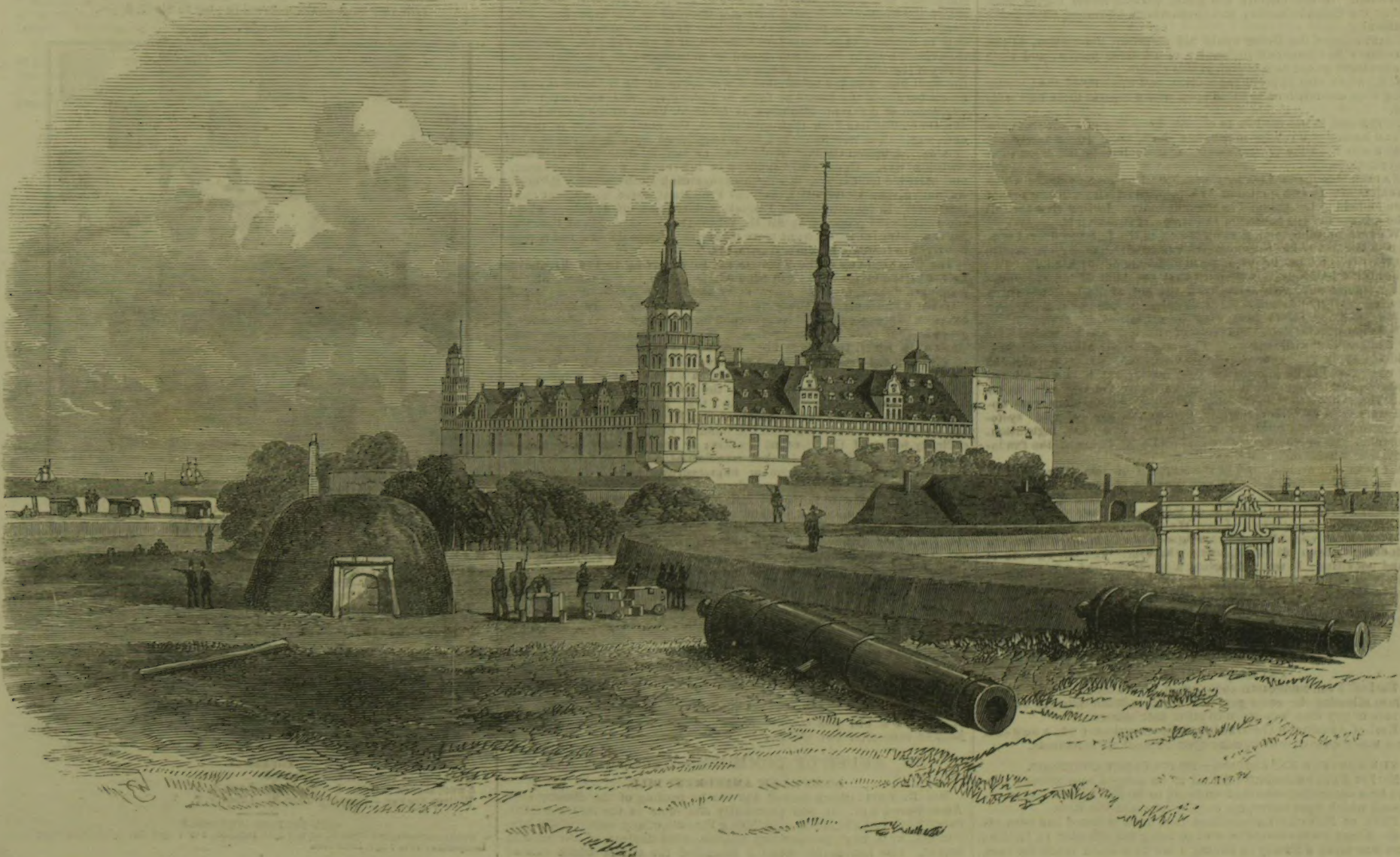
Under the Castle are spacious casemates, capable of accommodating upwards of 1000 men; and the lighthouse at the north-west corner commands a beautiful and extensive view of Elsinæur and its neighbourhood, the distant town of Helsingborg, and a long range of Swedish coast, with the Baltic bounding the horizon on the south.

There are many interesting associations connected with Kronborg. It has been immortalised by Shakespeare making its ramparts the meeting-place of Hamlet with his father's ghost. According to the traditions its vaults are sacred, as the dwelling-place of the Danish Roland, the hero of a thousand legends, who never appears on the surface of the earth but when the State is in danger; and the dungeons of Kronborg have a melancholy interest attached to them from the unfortunate Caroline Matilda, Queen of Christian VII., and sister of George III. of England, having been imprisoned here. In the lively "Letters from the Baltic," the approach is thus described:—

Our voyage now increased in interest; the coast of Jutland and Kronborg Castle—or, as tradition calls it, Hamlet's Castle—like a square mass on the waters, in sight, and vessels far and near studding the expanse around, and indicating the line of boundary 'twixt sea and sky, which the misty glow of a cloudless sun had almost fused into one.

At Elsinæur, that key which unlocks the narrow sluice-gates of the Baltic, an hour's delay occurred to pay those dues which are no mean compensation to Denmark for the scantiness of her absolute territory, and to take in a pilot to conduct us through the narrow slip which alone is navigable of this narrow sound. Our present locality recalled many naval reminiscences; and the new pilot at the helm occasioning a temporary leisure, we came in for some interesting particulars of our captain's life. Deriving his birth from the same county which sent forth Nelson, he had come under the particular charge of this great man; had served in his ship from the almost infantine period of his entering the navy; had assisted at the bombardment of this very Castle of Kronborg, which had attempted an opposition to their advance on Copenhagen; and had seen a brother, post-captain at the age of nineteen killed at his side a few days after his promotion.

Kronborg has already become a point of interest in our naval expedition to the Baltic; and, in another part of the present Number, we have engraved the pioneer of the fleet saluting the Castle in passing.



KRONBORG CASTLE, ELSINEUR, ENTRANCE OF THE SOUND.



IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

**RUSSIA AND TURKEY.—SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.**  
The Earl of ARBUTHNOT, in answer to the Earl of Malmesbury on the subject of the documents just published relating to Russia and Turkey, explained that the communications upon which the memorandum of Count Nesselrode was founded, were made during the stay of the Emperor of Russia in this country. The memorandum itself was drawn up subsequently.

**POSTAL CHARGES TO THE BALTIC FLEET.**  
Viscount CANNING, in answer to Earl Grey, mentioned that application had been made to the Treasury for authority to reduce the postal charge of letters to officers serving in the Baltic fleet from 1s. 8d. to 6d. the half-ounce. For seamen and marines the charge would continue to be a penny.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

**INDIA GOVERNMENT INQUIRY.**  
Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to a question from Mr. Hume, said it was the opinion of her Majesty's Ministers that the improvements in the Government of India would be best carried out by the local authorities, and it was not therefore intended to re-appoint the committee on the affairs of India.

**THE EASTERN QUESTION.**  
Mr. LAYARD postponed his question relative to the affairs of the East until the House should have an opportunity of digesting the very important and extraordinary correspondence upon the subject which had been recently laid on the table.

**INCOME-TAX.**  
The House having gone into Committee of Ways and Means, the resolution for doubling the Income-tax for the coming half year was agreed to without any discussion.

**MINISTERS' MONEY (IRELAND) BILL.**  
On the order of the day for the second reading of the Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill, Mr. MIALD moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He repudiated the compromise contained in the bill, and predicted that the Irish Church could never prosper while it persevered in always appearing in the character of a claimant for money. He did not think that those persons could be numbered as the friends of the Church who were urging her to demand such things as ministers' money, church rates, &c.

Mr. HUME seconded the amendment.  
The second reading of the bill was carried by a majority of 208 to 97.

**COLONIAL CLERGY DISABILITIES BILL.**  
On the order of the day for the second reading of the Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill,

Mr. HADFIELD moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The proposed measure, should it become law, would create alarm in the colonies by the power of synodical action which it would confer upon the clergy of the Established Church.

Sir J. PARINGTON hoped the hon. gentleman would not persevere with his amendment, as the Established Church laboured under difficulties in the Colonies which ought to be removed, and the details, where objectionable, might be altered in committee.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said that the bill proposed to repeal those acts which fetter the clergy of the Church of England in the Colonies in the management of ecclesiastical matters. When this was done the Church of England would be only in the same position as all other religious persuasions in the Colonies.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS opposed the second reading of the bill, considering it as ill-timed as it was unnecessary and injudicious.

Mr. NAPIER was inclined to give a preference to the bill of last session over the one now before the House.

Mr. WALPOLE mentioned some instances in which the clergy of the Church of England in the Colonies was placed under great disadvantages.

Mr. MIALD opposed the second reading of the bill, the object of which was to keep up the political connection with the Church of England at home; otherwise they would be as free as any other of the religions which were purely voluntary.

Lord J. RUSSELL could not see why the clergy of the Church of England should be hindered from keeping up a connection with the heads of the Church in Europe, while the liberty of doing so was accorded to the Roman Catholic and other religions.

The second reading of the bill was carried by a majority of 196 to 67.

**PREVENTION OF BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.**  
The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in bills for the prevention of bribery in the election of members to serve in Parliament for the city of Canterbury, and the boroughs of Cambridge, Barnstable, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Maldon. He referred to the reports of the election committees which had sat on petitions against returns for those places, disclosing a system of bribery of such an extensive character as called for immediate legislation. To remedy this state of things, he proposed simply to disfranchise the guilty parties whose names were reported by the Commissioners; and about whom, therefore, there could be no difficulty.

Mr. CAIRNS hoped the House would not entertain the motion, as the Commissioners had promised indemnity to all those parties, and their disfranchisement would be a breach of this pledge.

Sir J. HANMER also opposed the motion, and condemned the practice of issuing such commissions as those upon whose reports these bills were founded.

Mr. PHINN said it was too late to discuss the policy of those commissions; and having the results now before them, they would surely not cast such a slur upon the Commissioners as to decline to act upon their recommendations.

Mr. NAPIER thought that no man was bound to give evidence which would subject him to any species of forfeiture, and such forfeiture should therefore be held to be included in the indemnity. In this view the bill would be a breach of the honour of the House, if it passed it.

Mr. WHITESIDE contended, that according to the fair and liberal construction of the Act of Parliament which gave the indemnity, the parties giving evidence could not be subjected to forfeiture of any kind.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL contended that the bills of the Attorney-General were quite in accordance with the Act of Parliament which gave the indemnity, and gave it for the express purpose of enabling the House to legislate on the evidence thus to be obtained.

Mr. WALPOLE held that the object of the bill was to make "inquiry," and not to "disfranchise." The cases of St. Albans and Sudbury did not apply to the question under discussion. In these boroughs bribery was proved to be general and systematic; but it is not alleged that general and systematic bribery prevailed in the boroughs under review. The objects of the Act under which the commissions were appointed were two—to discover where bribery was general and systematic, and to collect materials for future, not *ex post facto*, legislation. In his opinion, the proposed measure involved a violation of the fundamental law of England.

Sir A. COCKBURN replied, and in the course of his remarks referred to the silence of Sir Fitzroy Kelly as symptomatic of non-coincidence in the opinions of those who sat on the same side of the House.

Sir F. KELLY rose in consequence of this remark, and expressed his full concurrence in the opinions of Mr. Walpole. At the very least, the Act of Parliament was sufficiently ambiguous to entitle the witnesses to claim indemnity from all consequences whatever. The bill was one of pains and penalties. It was a delusion, a deception, and a fraud.

On a division, leave was given to introduce the bill by 189 to 118.

Leave followed for bills to accomplish the same object in the four other boroughs (Cambridge, Barnstable, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Maldon), whose writs had been suspended.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

**PAYMENT OF SEAMEN.**  
The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH complained of the inconvenience which arose from allowing the coast guard-men who enlisted into the navy a higher rate of pay than was given to other able seamen.  
The Earl of ARBUTHNOT remarked that the experiment was a new one, and time was required to determine upon its final arrangements.

**THE EASTERN EXPEDITION.—FRAUDULENT CONTRACT.**  
The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH referred to an alleged case of fraud perpetrated by a contractor who had engaged to furnish hay for the transport vessels which were conveying cavalry horses to the East.  
The Duke of NEWCASTLE admitted that such a fraud had been attempted. Every means would be used to bring the offender to justice; but there was much difficulty in finding a law that could reach the case.

The Earl of DERRY thought that if the existing laws were not sufficient, a new one ought to be provided.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

**THE INCREASED INCOME-TAX.**  
On the question that the report of the Committee of Ways and Means (Increased Income tax) be received,

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved as an amendment that the collection of the additional moiety extend over the whole year, and not be levied during the first half of the year. The Chancellor of the Exchequer having obtained the sanction of the House to issue, if necessary, £1,750,000 in Exchequer-bills, there was no necessity for exacting the additional Income-tax within six months.

Mr. FRENCH seconded the amendment, advertising specially to the hardship in levied upon Ireland by the increase in the Income-tax.

Mr. T. HANKEY was one of those who heard with surprise the remark of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when explaining his Budget, that it was a matter of congratulation that the balances of the Exchequer were so low. Mr. Hankey went into details to show that Mr. Gladstone had committed some errors of judgment in financial operations, the results of which had been inconvenience and loss. In April next the Chancellor of the Exchequer, must, in all probability, be a borrower to a larger extent than he anticipates. It was not good policy in the Government to place itself under too great obligations to the Bank of England.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS remarked that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was in the unpleasant position of not being able to serve the public, and, at the same time, the Bank of England, of which Mr. Hankey is a prominent director. Mr. Williams maintained that the course taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in reducing the balances, and lowering the interest on Exchequer-bills was judicious, and profitable to the public.

Mr. SPOONER disputed some remarks made by Mr. T. Hankey in approval of the existing currency laws, and prophesied that, should the war continue, the inconvenience of the restriction would be felt to an alarming extent. The Emperor of Russia, who was master of the English money system in all its bearings, was no doubt looking forward with hope and confidence to a financial crisis as sure to help him in his defence.

Mr. HUME, in reference to Mr. Spooner, in his character of prophet, remarked, that his predictions during a period of thirty years had always been falsified. He thought that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was justified in reducing the rate of interest on Exchequer-bills at the time that he did so.

Mr. CAYLEY prognosticated that ere long the Act of 1844 would have to be suspended. He believed that, formidable as the Emperor of Russia was, he would prove a less formidable enemy than the Act of 1844.

Mr. MALINS was certain that, if the real character of the law of 1844 was known to the public, it would not remain in force for six months.

Sir F. BARING, in advertising to the strong opinions expressed against the Act of 1844 by several members, thought the better course for them to pursue would be to bring forward a specific motion expressive of their views. With respect to balances of the Exchequer, Sir Francis thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer would have been in a more comfortable condition had he possessed larger balances than he does at present; but that was no disparagement to him. No man can foresee with certainty all the circumstances which may affect his calculations. With regard to the proposition involved in the Budget, he regarded it as the best arrangement which could have been made.

Sir F. KELLY, anticipating a costly, and it may be a lasting war, thought it the duty of the House to look manfully at its difficulties. Instead of a well-filled Treasury, there was an empty one; and the House had a right to know how it happened that so alarming a state of things had come round. The balances in the Exchequer on the 5th January last, were only £4,485,000, instead of £8,000,000, the amount on the corresponding day of 1853. Had Mr. Gladstone not neglected the warnings of Sir F. Kelly, and those on his side of the House, the Treasury would have had a large amount at its credit.

Mr. DISRAELI contended that the Government were justified in demanding increased taxes to provide for a war only upon the condition of proving that the war was unavoidable. This they had not done; and, after making out a case by the production of a voluminous series of documents, had within the last few hours issued a supplemental volume, giving a totally new aspect to the question. As time had not allowed him to study these new documents, he was obliged to take the proposition now before the House just as it stood, leaving for future discussion the question whether the Ministry had deserved the confidence of the House or the country by the conduct which had led to their requiring enhanced revenues. Mr. Disraeli then passed on to the subject of the Exchequer balances, computing that the ready money that would be at the disposal of the Government next month would amount to a comparatively insignificant sum—so low, indeed, as to be dangerous and impolitic, even if the country were in a state of profound peace. Assigning as the cause of this impoverishment, the various reductions of interest and conversions of stocks attempted by Mr. Gladstone, and describing the details and results of those attempts with much minuteness, he characterised them as having been injudicious, ill-advised, and persisted in against the opinions of the most competent authorities, and in the face of symptoms which should have shown the Chancellor of the Exchequer the peril he was incurring. The final result would be to force the Minister to raise a loan, which would only be obtained upon worse terms the longer it was delayed. Meeting the objection that no criticism should be pronounced on the Ministerial policy if the critic were not prepared to propose a vote of no confidence, the right hon. member urged that it was apparent the Government had no confidence in the House or even in themselves, and contrasted the expression of different Ministers at different times to show how loose and conflicting had been their opinions on the great question of peace and war. The war itself had been occasioned by this divergence of opinion. A united Cabinet would have averted it altogether—it was a coalition war. Upon other subjects he inferred an equal discordance, and narrated incidents in late debates regarding Parliamentary Reform, Education, the Universities, and the Protestant cause, to warrant that inference. In conclusion, Mr. Disraeli declared himself unable to adopt the amendment proposed by Sir H. Willoughby. He believed that the Finance Minister would want more money than he could get, and it was not right to increase his embarrassments.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in advertising to the discursive nature of the topics which had been touched upon in the course of the prolonged debate, said, the amendment actually before them had occupied but a small place. Replying to Mr. Disraeli, he observed that the omission to propose a vote of want of confidence was defended upon the very grounds that should have prompted it; and characterised the conclusion, in which that right hon. member had landed his argument, as illogical and recalcitrant. Mr. Gladstone then proceeded to vindicate his policy with regard to the reduction of interest on Exchequer-bills, the conversion of stock, and the partial employment of the Treasury balances in buying up the public debt. He denied, in reference to the remarks of Mr. Hankey, that Government had sought accommodation from the Bank of England, except upon the ordinary terms of the discount market; or were in any way bound under special obligations to that establishment. He denied also that they had issued any injurious or unprecedented excess of deficiency bills. Deviating from the example set by previous speakers, he addressed a few remarks to the amendment placed before the House. The Chancellor of the Exchequer briefly explained and defended the motives which induced him to ask that the whole increase in the Income-tax should be paid within the first six months. He concluded by enforcing the policy of defraying the expenses of the year by the supplies of the year.

Colonel SIBTHORP said a few words condemnatory of all Chancellors of the Exchequer, and of the present in particular; expressing a hope that the Emperor of Russia would get a downright good licking; and urging that, if the war should, after all, not take place, the extra Income-tax ought not to be demanded.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER could not promise that if war did not take place the extra tax would not be levied, inasmuch as it was necessary to defray the expenses of the expedition already sent to the East.

The amendment was then negatived; the report of the resolution was agreed to; a bill was ordered to be brought in; and the House adjourned soon after two o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

**SIMONY LAW AMENDMENT BILL.**  
Mr. R. PHILLIMORE moved the second reading of the Simony Law Amendment Bill. It was practically the same as the measure introduced last year, absolutely prohibiting the sale of any ecclesiastical preferment, or a next presentation thereto, after decease of the present holder. The honourable member described the abuses which existed

under the law as it now stood, and declared that his bill had received the approbation of nearly all the Judges.

Mr. BUTT moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, which was carried, after a short discussion, by a majority of 86. The bill was consequently lost.

The second reading of the Payment of Wages (Hosiery) Bill was carried by a majority of 120 to 73.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ROYAL ASSENT.

The Royal Assent was given by commission to the following bills, viz.:—The Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) Bill, the Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000) Bill, the Coasting Trade Bill, the Mutiny Bill, and the Marine Mutiny Bill.

The following bills severally passed through Committee, viz.:—The Highways (South Wales) Bill, the Registration of Deeds of Sale Bill, and the Valuation (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE NEW JUDGE.

On the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to issue for the borough of Liskeard, in the room of Mr. Crowder, who has accepted the office of one of the Puisne Judges of the Court of Common Pleas.

FORAGE FOR THE ARMY.

In reply to a question from Colonel Blair, Mr. B. OSBORNE stated that the parties who were guilty of supplying an inferior description of hay, under a forage contract, for the horses proceeding to Turkey, were Sturgeon and Sons, of Grays, Essex.

Sir J. GRAHAM said that the Solicitor to the Admiralty had been that day instructed to prosecute the party. Should the law prove insufficient to meet such a case, he would come to Parliament with a bill to prevent the recurrence of such frauds for the future.

GAMING HOUSES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a bill for the suppression of gaming-houses. He said that strict as was the existing law against gaming-houses, it had been found inefficient to put down the evil. Those houses were barricaded in such a way that, before the police could effect an entrance, there was ample time to destroy the gaming implements; and there was an impossibility, therefore, of obtaining evidence to convict the parties arrested therein. Under these circumstances, he proposed that it should be a substantive offence, punishable by penalties, to prevent the entrance of officers legally authorised to obtain admission. He also proposed, by the bill that the magistrates—where a *prima facie* case was made out—should have the power of assuming the guilt of the parties, so far as to throw upon them the *onus probandi* that the house was not a common gaming-house. He also proposed to give the magistrate the power of selecting the persons whom he deemed it right to prosecute, and to liberate the others. One other proposal, upon which he set considerable value, was that of making it a substantive offence to give a false name. After a few words from Sir J. SHELLEY, in approval of the measure, leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE INCOME-TAX BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of the Income-tax Bill, Sir F. KELLY and Mr. SPOONER severally expressed a wish, in not opposing the second reading of the bill, to guard himself against the supposition that he was favourable to the increase of the Income-tax. The bill was then read a second time.

On the motion of Mr. BRADY, the Medical Practitioners Bill was read a second time.—Adjourned.

CHESS.

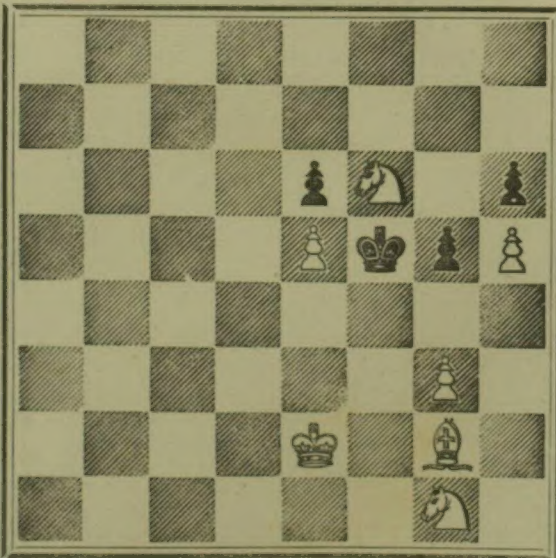
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN EX-MEMBER, &c.—No. 525 cannot be solved as you suggest. What is to hinder Black on his first move, from taking the Kt with his Queen's Pawn? We shall be glad to see the unpublished Problems to which you allude.  
T. B. of Bombay.—The celebrated Terrace Chess-boards are to be had of the original manufacturer, Mr. C. of Leadenhall-street, London.  
INSTANT.—You have copied our diagram incorrectly. In that, there is a Black Pawn at Black's Q Kt 4th.  
PROVINCIAL.—The annual subscription to the St. George's Chess-club, for country members, is one guinea only. Apply for a copy of the new rules, to the Secretary; we have not room to give them at this busy moment.  
LEARNER, Hyde-park-square.—We do not know upon what terms Mr. Löwenthal gives instruction in the game. You had better apply to him personally, at the Wellington Chess Salon, 160, Piccadilly.  
E. B. C.—Safely arrived. A reply shall be forwarded immediately.  
H. D.—We do not at all approve of what are mis-called "the adhesive men." In the diagrams sent to us, these pieces are continually coming off, and are thus the cause of frequent errors.  
ST. GEORGE'S CHESS-CLUB.—At a meeting of the Committee on Wednesday last, Mr. Von Heydebrand der Laza, the distinguished author of the "Handbuch des Schachspiels," was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Club.  
E. D. M.—We quite approve of the first and third rules. With the second, however, we are not so well satisfied.  
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 525, by Annabel, Bachelor, D. D., L. S., Glasgow, Milo, Derevon, are correct.  
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 526, by B. B., Nemo, F. R., of B. H. J. H. N., Derevon, J. O. W. Higer, Grimsby, R. D. M., Rufus, Liebhold, Exonian, J. P., L. F., Somerset; Alderman, Liverpoolian, True Blue, F. C. S., M. F., Major—of Sandhurst Boy, M. N. O., H. T. A., Epson, R. C. C., Bristol, Hermsdorf, Hutt, J. M. of Sherborn, J. W. S. of H., Mathematicus, Eilenberg, are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 527.

This very neat finale occurred in play to Sir G. S.—

BLACK.



WHITE.

White (Sir G. S.), having to play, announced mate in four moves.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

**WARWICK AND LEAMINGTON SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.**  
Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each.—Census, 1. Flageolet, 2.  
Woodroffe Stakes.—The Despatched, 1. Oddity, 2.  
Free Handicap.—Alonso, 1. Florist, 2.  
Trial Stakes.—Orestes, 1. Rastaban, 2.  
Willoughby Handicap.—Bourton, 1. Ethelwolf, 2.  
Farmers' Plate (Heats).—British Sailor, 1. Jenny Jones, 2.

**WEDNESDAY.**  
Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each.—Census, 1. Mirabeau, 2.  
Welter Handicap.—Titterstone, 1. Warwick, 2.  
Debdale Stakes.—Tipperary Boy, 1. The Farmer's Friend, 2.  
Great Warwickshire Handicap.—Cleveland, 1. Ethelwolf, 2.  
Two-year-old Stakes.—Border Chief, 1. Bessie, 2.  
Handicap Plate.—Koh-i-noor, 1. Gaylad, 2.  
Match, 100 p. p.—Peter the Great beat Lucy Glitters.  
Farmers' Handicap Hurdle Race.—British Sailor, 1. Swerford, 2.

**THURSDAY.**  
Gold Cup.—Torrent, 1. Cervus, 2.  
Sweepstakes.—Billy, 1. Beckbury Lass, 2.  
Welter Stakes.—Peeping Tom, 1. Liberty, 2.

**CITY BETTING.—THURSDAY.**  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.—3 to 1 agst Dufrance; 5 to 1 agst Mr. Sykes; 8 to 1 agst Lamprock; 10 to 1 agst Little Jim.



On the 17th inst., at Tigate-forest, aged 82, Mrs. Jolliffe, relict of the Rev. W. Jolliffe, and mother of Sir W. G. Hyllon Jolliffe, Bart., M.P.  
In York-street, Portman-square, Lady Susan Barbara, wife of Sir G. B. Pocock, and daughter of the late Colonel Kelly, of Dean's-yard, Westminster.  
On the 21st inst., at No. 4, Queen-street, Brompton, Robert Probst, Esq., aged 61, deeply regretted by a large circle of relatives and friends.

A new piece, entitled "Wanted a She-Wolf," was produced on Thursday. The characters are German, and the action is exceedingly slow and simple; but there is nature, and occasionally wit, in the delineations and dialogue, which secure it success. The plot, in fact, turns upon a child in a basket being sent to Herr Doctor Dreierne (Mr. Frank Matthews), and its "supernatious" paternity "being charged on Herr Professor Placidus (Mr. C. Matthews), the mother being supposed to be the Doctor's niece, Clara (Miss M. Oliver). The Baroness von Batenhausen (Mr. B. Baker) makes herself busy, and in particular charges the two persons just named with the responsibility of the infant; but, pushing the matter too far, enforces a declaration from his own





ARRIVAL OF THE REMAINS OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY AT THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY STATION.

## FUNERAL OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY.

THE funeral of this distinguished soldier has been attended with some observances of melancholy interest, and high tributes of respect to the deceased, in the metropolis, at the family mansion, and at the last resting-place of the remains, Wynyard.

On Monday night (last week) the remains were removed from Hol-ferness house to the terminus of the Great Northern Railway at King's-cross, en route to Wynyard, where they were to lie in state on Wednesday, preparatory to their interment on the following day at Long Newton, the ancient burial-place of the Vane family.

The body was conveyed in a hearse drawn by six horses, after which followed two mourning coaches and four. In the first rode the three sons of the deceased nobleman—Viscount Castlereagh (now Marquis of Londonderry); Viscount Seaham (now Earl Vane); and Lord Adolphus Vane. The second carriage conveyed the Earl of Portarlington, son-in-law of the deceased, and his two nephews, Captain Wood and Mr. Stewart of Ards. The private carriage of the deceased nobleman, and about a dozen other carriages belonging to the nearest relatives of the late Marquis, followed.

The officers and men of the deceased nobleman's regiment (2nd Life Guards) having expressed a desire to pay the last tribute of respect to their Colonel, by attending at the station as a guard of honour to receive his remains, the assent of the family was obtained, and at eight o'clock on Monday night, the whole regiment, with the Colonels and officers at its head, marched from the Regent's-park barracks to King's-cross, where the men were drawn up in double column at the south end of the railway platform.

On the arrival of the hearse containing the body within the station enclosure, the fine band of the regiment, led by Mr. Grattan Cooke, com-

menced playing "The Dead March in Saul," which was continued during the time occupied in placing the hearse upon a railway travelling truck; which, being done, it was moved slowly towards the train to which it had to be attached; the sons of the deceased, with Lord Portarlington and the two nephews, following uncovered. The present Marquis was deeply affected, and the other relatives appeared greatly moved. The solemn music continued until just previously to the train being set in motion, and the sons of the deceased remained in attendance until the latest moment.

Captain Wood and Mr. Stewart, as executors to their deceased relative, accompanied the remains.

In conformity with the expressed wish of the deceased Peer, his funeral was essentially private. The body arrived at Wynyard on Tuesday morning, and was immediately deposited in the private chapel of the mansion, which was hung with black cloth, and appropriately decorated. In the centre a bier had been erected, upon which was placed the coffin, covered with crimson velvet, and bearing a massive gilt inscription-plate. A black velvet pall, ornamented with escutcheons of the family arms, was thrown partially over the coffin, upon the head of which rested the coronet and cushion, and at the foot the helmet, sword, and sash, worn by the deceased Marquis.

At noon, on Wednesday, the public were admitted. Captain Wood and Mr. Stewart sat at the head of the corpse from noon until three o'clock, during which limited period upwards of a thousand persons passed through the chapel.

The Corporations of the city of Durham, as well as of Sunderland, Stockton, Seaham, and other towns, met and unanimously determined that business should be altogether suspended on Thursday. At Sunderland, as well as at Seaham, the flags of all the vessels in harbour were hoisted half-mast high, and the bells at the different churches tolled

from an early hour. The works throughout the extensive collieries and quarries belonging to the deceased Peer were also suspended by the voluntary act of the workmen.

At nine o'clock, the principal tenantry on the Wynyard estate (all of whom had made application to be permitted to attend the funeral) began to assemble. They were mounted on horseback, attired in deep mourning, and provided with scarfs and hatbands.

At ten o'clock the mournful cortege left the mansion in the following order:—

Two Mutes bearing wands. The tenantry on the Wynyard Estate, on horseback, two and two. A coach and four, conveying the master of the deceased's household, bearing the coronet; and his Lordship's valet bearing the sword, &c. A lid of plumes. The Hearse, drawn by six black horses, conveying the coffin, and ornamented with escutcheons of the family arms. The favourite charger of the deceased, led by his groom, with boots and spurs suspended from the saddle. A mourning coach and four, conveying Viscount Castlereagh, Viscount Seaham, the Earl of Portarlington, and the Earl of Roden. Followed by six other mourning coaches, and the family carriage, containing the relatives, agents, and professional advisers of the deceased.

The procession advanced through the family domain by the road, towards its destination at Long Newton, some twelve miles distant from Wynyard. At Stockton-on-Tees, the shops were all closed, and the Mayor and corporate authorities on the Londonderry-bridge received the cortege, and preceded it through the town. A considerable number of the townspeople joined the procession at this place, many of them accompanying it to its destination.

Long Newton is principally the property of the Marchioness of Londonderry. The picturesque little church is indebted to her Ladyship's munificence for an organ and three painted windows which decorate the chancel. The edifice itself is plain and unpretending. There are no other monuments than those of the Vane family, whose vault is in the chancel, immediately beneath the altar.

At the village of Long Newton, assembled the Mayors, and Corporations of Durham, Sunderland, Seaham, and other important towns in the county. The gentry and magistracy, for many miles around, also met at this place, to join in the last tribute of respect to the memory of their lamented Lord Lieutenant. At a quarter before one, the procession entered the hamlet; a few minutes previously, the widowed Marchioness of Londonderry, and the female branches of the family, having arrived in the churchyard. The mounted tenantry filed off on either side the road, and allowed the procession to pass between them. The coronet and cushion, and the helmet and sword were followed by a lid of funeral plumes. The coffin succeeded. The pall was borne by the Duke of Cleveland, Lord Hatherton, the Earl of Roden, Col. Sir H. Browne, Col. McDowell, and Col. Williams. Immediately behind the coffin walked Viscount Castlereagh as chief mourner, followed by Viscount Seaham and the Earl of Portarlington. Mr. J. Stewart and Captain Wood came next, the other mourners following; and in the rear were several officers of the 2nd Life Guards. The coffin having been placed upon a bier in front of the altar, the church doors were closed, and the service for the burial of the dead proceeded. At its conclusion the mourners returned to Wynyard.

## ORNAMENTAL LIBRARY BELLOWS.

ONE of the noticeable events of last week, as possessing a peculiar and significant interest at the present time, and as showing the latent taste



LIBRARY BELLOWS PRESENTED TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

which exists in various departments of British industry, is the completion of a pair of very costly and elegant Library Bellows, by Mr. John C. Onions, the extensive bellows manufacturer of Birmingham, for presentation to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French. We engrave this curious specimen of industrial art, which exhibits much beauty and appropriateness of design. The materials employed in its production are curiosities. They consist of portions of the celebrated willow which hung over the grave of Napoleon I., at St. Helena; and the no less celebrated Stratford elm, memorable as the tree under whose branches Shakespeare was wont to spend the "sunny hours of childhood." The former relic was obtained from Mrs. Tarbutt, the proprietress of the estate on which the tree grew, and its genuineness is proved by documents in the handwriting of General Montholon and Count De las Cases, both of whom were with Napoleon during the last hours of his exile. The other relic was cut down only a few years ago, when it came by purchase into the hands of Mr. Onions. For these reasons, this pair of bellows is a rarity; but it has also other qualities to recommend it. As a specimen of manufacturing art, it is singularly beautiful. The carving, which is characteristic of the period of Louis XIV., is executed with great skill and delicacy. The fittings are blue and white kid, secured by silver nails, adorned with national emblems. The pipe, likewise, is of silver, chased and engraved. As a whole, we have seldom seen a more perfect specimen of Birmingham manufacture, or one better calculated to advance the reputation of the large and ancient establishment whence it has emanated. Ancient we may say, truly enough; as it appears that the ancestors of Mr. Onions were almost the first to introduce the trade of bellows-making into Birmingham; and as far back as the year 1650, the family was somewhat celebrated for its manufacture of this article. The present representative of the family, however, has far outstripped his ancestors. He has effected many important improvements in the trade, employs nearly 200 pairs of hands, and may be said to make more bellows than are made by all the other manufacturers in England put together.

This unique gift was last week forwarded to Paris for presentation to the Emperor at the Tuilleries.



LONG NEWTON CHURCH, THE BURIAL-PLACE OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY.



EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS.



"THE TEN VIRGINS."—PAINTED BY J. E. LAUDER, R.S.A.

THE Seventh Exhibition of this young and industrious Association of Artists has opened for the season at the Portland Gallery, 216, Regent-street. The number of works exhibited is 438, by far the greater proportion of which are landscapes. In this favourite line the Williamses, Sydney Percy, F. W. Hulme, Peel, A. Gilbert, Barland, Willis, Bell, Bates, &c., are large contributors.

E. Williams, sen., has seven pictures: the "Old Coach-road—Market-morning" (114), with a group of rustics at the door of an inn, is full

of material and carefully painted, but a little tame in effect; not so in either respect "Gipsies leaving the Common—Early Morning" (407), in which the red dawn is strongly marked in ochre tints, and studiously broken by figures just on the horizon in the foreground.

G. A. Williams exhibits fifteen productions, amongst which are several winter scenes, all skilfully treated; the occasional sunbeam, and appropriate warm shadows, coming in to soften the asperities of the snow-drift and ice-bound foreground. In "The Fisherman's Haunt"

(104), the glowing rays of the setting sun, piercing through the foliage produce an attractive and striking effect.

S. Percy, in his "Stream from the Mountains" (41) betrays an increasing propensity for the severer aspects of nature. The mountain scene, broken in places with blocks of rock, slate, &c., deriving increased asperity from the cold, bleak atmosphere which covers it. The slightest tinge of mellow tone would be a real boon to the eye, besides materially increasing the artistic merit of the picture. Mr



"A REST BY THE WAY."—MOEL HEBOG, NORTH WALES.—PAINTED BY F. UNDERHILL.



Percy should study Salvator Rosa, and see how he condescended to admit some atmosphere of warmth in his most desolate, and savage creations. A. Gilbert's "A Calm Evening" (48) is at once a clever and agreeable work. In the left of the picture is a mass of rich foliage overhanging a calm river's surface; the right is occupied by an expanse of low ground, above which the sky is gilded with the abundant rays of the setting sun.

Willis's "Scene on the Conway, near Bettws-y-coed—Evening" (82), is well painted, and is especially commendable for its breadth and airiness of effect. His "Pleasant Nook in North Wales" is also pleasantly rendered—the cattle nicely painted. A similar remark will apply to "The Lazy Herd—a Scene on the Conway (138)," by F. W. Hulme and H. B. Willis.

With this we close, for the present, our review of the landscape department of the collection; and proceed to take a glance at the few efforts in the higher walks of art which it comprises. And here for a moment we pause, to consider whether we ought to include portraiture in the aforesaid "higher walks" or not. Certainly the managers of the Institution seem almost to invite one to do so by the prominence with which they have honoured their works in this line—Mr. Barraud's portrait of the Marquis of Conyngham (1) occupying the place of honour over the chimney-piece in the first room; and Mr. Bell Smith's group, of "Mrs W. Masmore Williams and Children" (80), the second place of honour, opposite; and Mr. Middleton's "portrait" (227), understood to be of himself, being hung over the chimney-piece in the second room. But we will not be provoked to criticism of them, and so pass on to other matters.

C. Rossetti has a gaudy piece of colouring, in "La Fleur's Courtship" (20), from the "Sentimental Journey"; the figures, too, are hard, and the giddy gallant sentiment is not realised.

Anna Mary Howitt (daughter, we believe, of the author) comes across us with a very creditable essay—"Margaret Returning from the Fountain" (128), after the passage in Goethe's "Faust":

Margaret, having heard the harsh judgment of her companions at the city fountain, returns home tortured by self-accusation.

The attitude of the figure, and the expression of the half-concealed face, correctly illustrate the emotion intended; and the drawing and handling are in all respects satisfactory; though the general treatment of the picture is evidently studied under pre-Raphaelite influence.

J. E. Collins has two agreeable female studies, in ovals—(36), "Gianetta," a dark-eyed brunette, with a basket of grapes; and (43), "Madeleine," removing "wreathed pearls" from her hair: as described in a line in the "Eve of St. Agnes."

Charles Dukes is more successful in the composition, drawing, and expression of his pretty little every-day group of "The Mother" (80), than in the colour, which is ill-harmonised: that large expanse of grey would call for pink or red trimmings, instead of cold blue; and this alteration would further help to support the rose, which, held out in the hand, is now isolated, and produces a spotty effect. His companion piece, "A Rustic Group" (188), is tame compared with the other, and confusedly coloured.

F. Underhill has two capital rustic groups, treated with an honest genuine purpose. "Babes in the Wood" (82) are not the sentimental babes of the nursery-tale version, but real ruddy flesh and blood; and the boy has an arch intelligent expression which prepossesses us in his favour. In "A Rest by the Way" (133), which we engrave, we have a scene of harvest in North Wales—a village rustic sprawling on his back, fast asleep—snoring, of course; while two others lean against a stile, envying his happy condition. A third picture by this artist is a clever study of "Little Nell" (303).

"The Ten Virgins" (83), by J. E. Lauder, is a small picture, somewhat original in design, and, as to grouping, carefully studied in every part. In the centre, and towards the right, are the five wise virgins, preparing to depart to meet the bridegroom; on the left are the foolish ones—three of whom are asleep, two others having but just awoke, and one of whom earnestly implores their more fortunate companions for some of their oil. The group on the left is in deep shadow, while the middle and right of the picture display a good breadth of light. The colouring, perhaps, is a little wanting in keeping, and somewhat crude in the laying on; but, with this exception, the picture is a good one, and we have much pleasure in producing an engraving of it.

R. S. Lauder has a picture on a larger scale than the last described, of "The Marys at the Sepulchre" (250), in which there is good drawing, and much general ability in parts; but the figures are so widely separated, as to form two groups on either side of the canvas, the centre being a dark void. This is obviously an error of composition, which no artistic appliances in the execution can atone for. The same artist has also an ingeniously contrived work, "The Lady of Shalott" (232), the face seen in profile, and full face in the glass, as

in her web she still delights  
To weave the mirror's magic sights.

G. F. Herring's "Interior of a Stable" (223), with his favourite white horse, in first-rate condition, displays all that nicety of surface treatment for which he is celebrated.

"Hamlet, Horatio, and Oseio" (300), by Marks—

Hamlet. Your bonnet to its right use—'tis for the head.  
Oseio. I thank your worship—'tis very hot.

A violent conceit of preter-pre-Raphaelitism. Oseio is equipped after the extreme fashion of a Court fool; and his expression and pose are in keeping.

Glass has another equestrian performance—one of those astonishing night adventures in which he is unrivalled. The present subject is "the Flight of Mary Stuart from Lochleven." The time is described as that of early dawn; but the full moon is too high in the sky for that period of the day; and the blue grey gloom is the same; as the splashing water is the same; and the headlong rushing steeds the same, as in the "Night March," and other nocturnal scenes by this artist.

#### MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.—ANCIENT ITALIAN ART.

A very interesting exhibition has just been opened at the Museum of Ornamental Art, consisting of models in wax and terra cotta, supposed to be by various ancient Italian masters, including Michael Angelo, Donatello, Giovanni di Bologna, and (one specimen only) by Raphael. These objects, whether authentic or not (and after a first hasty glance we are inclined to give an affirmative opinion in respect to many of them), have long been hid away in obscurity, and have only recently come to light at Florence. They belong to Madame Gherardini; by whom they have been offered for sale successively to the Austrian, the French, and now to the English Government. Their exhibition, under the auspices of the Department of Science and Art (which will continue for a month), is "with a view of eliciting from the public and the artists of this country such an expression of opinion as to their value and genuineness as will justify the purchase or the rejection of the collection by her Majesty's Government"—a cautious mode of proceeding, which it had been well if the Government and its advisers had always pursued in their art ventures. Considering the subject to be one of public interest, we shall recur at some length to it in our next, when we shall also give Engravings of some of the models.

**LARGE ARRIVAL OF VESSELS FROM THE NORTH OF EUROPE.**—Since Sunday the river has presented an animated appearance, owing to the arrival of 200 or 300 vessels from the ports in the north of Europe (the first trip with many of them since the breaking up of the ice) which have been detained, buffeting about in the North Sea, by the south-westerly winds. Late on Saturday, however, there was a change to the northward and eastward, and the next tide or so the windbound fleet made its appearance at the mouth of the Thames. Amongst them were three Russians laden with grain. So rapid was their arrival at Gravesend that the Custom-house authorities had to use extraordinary expedition in putting officers on board of them. On Monday the number of ships entered inward at the Custom-house amounted to upwards of 150.

**IMPROVED EMIGRANT SHIP.**—The emigrant ship *City of Manchester* is provided with commodious baths for the use of the emigrants, and a bakehouse for supplying soft bread twice a week; she is fitted on an entirely new principle, by which the berths are divided off into sections of twelve persons, with tables in the open spaces towards the portholes, which hoist up at night, and render each section as private as if in a separate cabin, curtains being made to fall down over the sleeping places, and providing a clear passage all round the interior of the ship.

**REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.**—A reformatory institution is to be erected on that part of the Curragh of Kildare cut off by the Great Southern and Western Railway, and containing between 300 and 400 acres. The aim of the institution will be self-supporting. Suitable buildings will be erected, capable of affording accommodation for 400 boys.

**THE VALUE OF DUST.**—The privilege of removing the dust and ashes of the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, above Bars, has been sold for £460 a year, for which last year only £80 was given; and a few years ago the parish had to pay, instead of being paid, for its removal.

#### "LIKE A GENTLEMAN."

SAT's Nick to John, "I have something to say,  
Just in a confidential way,  
Of an unfortunate friend of ours,  
On whom dark destiny dimly lowers,  
He's breaking up as fast as he can—  
In short, he's a very unfortunate man.  
Ruin surrounds him above and below;  
With no one to help him, and Fortune his foe,  
So, with you, I should like his case to scan,  
Quite *en ami*, and *en gentleman*.  
Poor fellow! He's very sick, they say;  
And lies at the Crescent, over the way,  
In that shaky hotel at the sign of the Crown,  
Which, I've reason to fear, is tumbling down;  
And his case to consider, as well as we can,  
Is the part of a friend and a gentleman."

"'Tis very proper," says John to Nick,  
"And we'll try to help this poor fellow that's sick."

"Just so," says Nick, "for, indeed, 'twould be cruel,  
When a man is so sick, not to give him his gruel;  
And we'll play the good Samaritan:  
In short—behave like a gentleman.  
You see, if he's left to himself, my friend,  
I fear he'll come to a very bad end,  
The waiters about him will soon be trying  
To prig what they can from the man that's dying;  
And his watch, and his rings, and such little things,  
They'll fob, and they'll rob; unless we've a plan  
To fly to his aid, on pity's wings,  
And watch over him—like a gentleman:  
For you and I can better dispose  
Of his watch and his chains than fellows like those.  
I'll take the chains, for I've use for them;  
The watch you'll keep." Cried John, "Ahe n!  
The watch I'll keep—you say quite true;  
(*Aside*) I'll keep a watch on you."

"Now," says Nick, "when he dies"—Says John, "Don't hurry him,

One would think you were going to bury him."  
"By no means," says Nick, "I would save that expense,  
For his case is such, we may raise the pretence  
That the cause of science 'twould very much aid  
If a private *post mortem* dissection were made—  
For I'm sure he'll die," says Nick, with a wink,  
"And 'twould be an excellent plan, I think.  
To dissect him between us, in friendly alliance,  
Just for the good of practical science—  
Of course we'll do it as clean as we can;  
I mean by that—like a gentleman."

"But, sir," says John, "the man's not dead yet  
Perhaps you'll find his spirit's not fled yet;  
And that phrase, *post mortem*'s unhappily said,  
In my apprehension, till bodies are dead."

"Pooh, pooh!" says Nick, "what a squeamish elf—  
Then I must cut up the fellow myself;  
And I'll declare to each *Royal* college  
That 'twas only done in pursuit of knowledge;  
For 'knowledge is power,' philosophers say,  
And the power I'll have—if the d—'s to pay!"

"Beware," says John, "it may cost you your life,  
You may be indicted as 'Nick of the knife';  
And your judges the potent distinction may urge on,  
'Twixt 'surgeon barber' and barbarous surgeon;  
However, if you will insist to go through with it,  
Observe, my good sir, I'll have nothing to do with it."

Then Nick, with a scowl (but the D—I could match it), he  
Drew his knife—like grim *Shylock*—to finish the tragedy,  
But the man "that was sick" had a kick in him yet,  
As Nicky found out; for, before he could get  
Within reach of the heart of his victim—his heel  
Made a serious impression where ruffians can feel.  
If all other parts boast of insensibility,  
There, at least, may be planted a wound on gentility,  
And Nick, with his kick, from the sick Oriental man,  
Cried "Zounds! what a way to behave to a gentleman!"

SAMUEL LOVER.

#### DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

WE have been favoured by Mr. Brierley with the very interesting scene engraved at page 280. The moment represented is that when the fleet, under sail and steam, had passed Beachy-head, and were nearing the Straits of Dover.

During the afternoon of Saturday they had weighed, from Spithead, in obedience to a signal from the flag-ship and stood out to sea, headed by her Majesty, in the *Fairy*, which, off the Nab Light, lay to, and allowed the whole fleet to pass her. Each ship manned her rigging, and kept up such cheering as spoke well for English lungs and loyalty. Ordinary etiquette prescribes that the lower rigging only should be manned, and three cheers given; but, on this occasion, the men crowded aloft, even to the trucks, and shouted with enthusiasm, as affecting as it was uncontrollable.

During the night the wind fell nearly to a calm, and though, at the time represented in our Sketch, there was a good breeze, it needed the assistance of steam to bring them into that beautifully regular position. The fleet was formed into three lines. To windward, the paddle steamers were headed by Admiral Plumridge, in the *Leopard*; abreast, or a little ahead of him, Admiral Sir Charles Napier, in the *Duke of Wellington*, led the starboard, or weather line; and, at the head of the lee division, is seen the *Edinburgh*, flag-ship of Admiral Chads. In our illustration the Admiral has made a general signal to the fleet, which, having been acknowledged by the "answering pendant" at the mast-head of each ship, he is hauling down.

Next to the Admiral is the *St. Jean d'Acre*, a little out of the line, as it will be seen; her great speed rendering it necessary occasionally to yaw from her course, to avoid running into the flag-ship ahead.

The run from Spithead was one continued ovation: from every little port they passed, steamers, full of enthusiastic excursionists, dashed into the fleet, greeting each ship with cheers, which each gracefully acknowledged by dipping her ensign.

Towards sunset, as the fleet steamed into the Downs, one of those sights occurred which, seen once in a life, remain graven on the memory for ever. Many hundred merchantmen, of every nation—among them some Russians—were lying, with all sail set, and flapping idly in the dying wind. Threading their way among them, and looming like mountains by the contrast, came the giant line-of-battle ships, looking, as they glided along with bare yards, as if their motions were the result of mere volition. Bands were playing on their decks; and, as the sun touched the horizon, there was a rattle of musketry from the sentries of the fleet: down came the ensigns from the peak, a heavy plunge from the bows of the Admiral told that his anchor was down, and his position taken up: each ship followed his example, and anchored in line, in reversed order of sailing.

#### THE RUSSIAN OVERTURES TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

THE "secret and confidential" despatches of which the existence was betrayed by the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, as stated in our last, were placed before Parliament on Friday evening, the 17th, and published in the daily journals of Monday last. We have made some observations in another portion of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on these important and very remarkable papers, which we present to our readers with but very slight abridgment, leaving intact the conversations of the Emperor, as detailed by Sir G. H. Seymour; the reply of Lord John Russell to the Czar's overtures; and the confidential memorandum of Count Nesselrode.

No. 1.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD J. RUSSELL.—(Received Jan. 23.)  
(Secret and confidential.)

St. Petersburg, Jan. 11. 1853.

My Lord,—On the evening of the 9th inst. I had the honour of seeing the Emperor at the palace of the Grand Duchess Hlela, who, it appeared, had kindly requested permission to invite Lady Seymour and myself to meet the Imperial family.

The Emperor came up to me, in the most gracious manner, to say that he had heard with great pleasure of her Majesty's Government having been definitively formed, adding that he trusted the Ministry would be of long duration.

His Imperial Majesty desired me particularly to convey this assurance to the Earl of Aberdeen, with whom, he said, he had been acquainted for nearly forty years, and for whom he entertained equal regard and esteem. His Majesty desired to be brought to the kind recollection of his Lordship.

The Emperor went on to say—"I repeat that it is very essential that the two Governments—that is, the English Government and I, and I and the English Government—should be upon the best terms; and the necessity was never greater than at present. I beg you to convey these words to Lord John Russell. When we are agreed (*d'accord*), I am quite without anxiety as to the west of Europe; it is immaterial what the others may think or do. As to Turkey, that is another question; that country is in a critical state, and may give us all a great deal of trouble. And now I will take my leave of you;" which his Majesty proceeded to do by shaking hands with me very graciously.

It instantly occurred to me that the conversation was incomplete, and might never be renewed, and, as the Emperor still held my hand, I said, "Sir, with your gracious permission, I would desire to take a great liberty."

"Certainly," his Majesty replied; "what is it? let me hear."  
"Sir," I observed, "your Majesty has been good enough to charge me with general assurances as to the identity of views between the two Cabinets, which assuredly have given me the greatest pleasure, and will be received with equal satisfaction in England; but I should be particularly glad that your Majesty should add a few words which may tend to calm the anxiety with regard to the affairs of Turkey, which passing events are so calculated to excite on the part of her Majesty's Government. Perhaps you will be pleased to charge me with some additional assurances of this kind."

The Emperor's words and manner, although still very kind, showed that his Majesty had no intention of speaking to me of the demonstration which he is about to make in the South. He said, however, at first with a little hesitation, but, as he proceeded, in an open and unhesitating manner—"The affairs of Turkey are in a very disorganised condition; the country itself seems to be falling to pieces (*menace ruine*); the fall will be a great misfortune, and it is very important that England and Russia should come to a perfectly good understanding upon these affairs and that neither should take any decisive step of which the other is not apprised."

I observed in a few words, that I rejoiced to hear that his Imperial Majesty held this language; that this was certainly the view I took of the manner in which Turkish questions were to be treated.

"Tenez," the Emperor said, as if proceeding with his remark, "tenez; nous ayons sur les bras un homme malade—un homme gravement malade; ce sera, je vous le dis franchement, un grand malheur si, un de ces jours, il devait nous échapper, surtout avant qu'il toutes les dispositions nécessaires fussent prises. Mais enfin ce n'est point le moment de vous parler de cela."

It was clear that the Emperor did not intend to prolong the conversation. I, therefore, said, "Votre Majesté est si gracieuse qu'elle me permettra de lui faire encore une observation. Votre Majesté dit qu'il l'homme est malade; c'est bien vrai, mais votre Majesté daignera m'excuser si je lui fais observer, que c'est à l'homme généreux et fort de ménager l'homme malade et faible."

The Emperor then took leave of me in a manner which conveyed the impression of my having, at least, not given offence, and again expressed his intention of sending for me on some future day.

I have, &c., G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 2.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—(Received Feb. 6.)  
(Secret and confidential.)

St. Petersburg, Jan. 22. 1853.

My Lord,—On the 14th inst., in consequence of a summons which I received from the Chancellor, I waited upon the Emperor, and had the honour of holding with his Imperial Majesty the very interesting conversation of which it will be my duty to offer your Lordship an account, which, if imperfect, will, at all events, not be inaccurate.

I found his Majesty alone; he received me with great kindness, saying, that I had appeared desirous to speak to him upon Eastern affairs; that, on his side, there was no indisposition to do so, but that he must begin at a remote period.

"You know," his Majesty said, "the dreams and plans in which the Empress Catherine was in the habit of indulging; these were handed down to our time; but while I inherited immense territorial possessions, I did not inherit these visions—those intentions, if you like to call them so. On the contrary, my country is so vast, so happily circumstanced in every way, that it would be unreasonable in me to desire more territory or more power than I possess; on the contrary, I am the first to tell you that our great, perhaps our only danger, is that which would arise from an extension given to an empire already too large."

"Close to us lies Turkey, and, in our present condition, nothing better for our interests can be desired. The times have gone by when we had anything to fear from the fanatical spirit or the military enterprise of the Turks; and yet the country is strong enough, and has hitherto been strong enough, to preserve its independence, and to ensure respectful treatment from other countries."

"Well, in that empire there are several millions of Christians whose interests I am called upon to watch over (*surveiller*), while the right of doing so is secured to me by treaty. I may truly say that I make a moderate and sparing use of my right, and I will freely confess that it is one which is attended with obligations occasionally very inconvenient; but I cannot recede from the discharge of a distinct duty. Our religion, as established in this country, came to us from the East; and there are feelings, as well as obligations, which never must be lost sight of."

"Now, Turkey, in the condition which I have described, has by degrees fallen into such a state of decrepitude, that, as I told you the other night, eager as we all are for the prolonged existence of the man (and that I am as desirous as you can be for the continuance of his life, I beg you to believe) he may suddenly die upon our hands (*nous rester sur les bras*). We cannot resuscitate what is dead. If the Turkish empire falls, it falls to rise no more; and I put it to you, therefore, whether it is not better to be provided beforehand for a contingency, than to incur the chaos, confusion, and the certainty of a European war—all of which must attend the catastrophe if it should occur unexpectedly, and before some ulterior system has been sketched? This is the point to which I am desirous that you should call the attention of your Government."

"Sir," I replied, "your Majesty is so frank with me, that I am sure you will have the goodness to permit me to speak with the same openness. I would, then, observe that, deplorable as is the condition of Turkey, it is a country which has long been plunged in difficulties; supposed by many to be insurmountable. With regard to contingent arrangements, her Majesty's Government, as your Majesty is well aware, objects, as a general rule, to taking engagements upon possible eventualities; and would, perhaps, be particularly disinclined to doing so in this instance. If I may be allowed to say so, a great disinclination (*répugnance*) might be expected in England to disposing by anticipation (*d'escompter*) of the succession of an old friend and ally."

"The rule is a good one," the Emperor replied; "good at all times; especially in times of uncertainty and change, like the present; still, it is of the greatest importance that we should understand one another,



and not allow events to take us by surprise; maintenant je désire vous parler en ami et en gentleman; si nous arrivons à nous entendre sur cette affaire, l'Angleterre et moi, pour le reste peu m'importe; il m'est indifférent ce que font ou pensent les autres. Usant donc de franchise, je vous dis nettement, que si l'Angleterre songe à s'établir un de ces jours à Constantinople, je ne le permettrai pas; je ne vous prête point ces intentions, mais il vaut mieux dans ces occasions parler clairement; de mon côté, je suis également disposé de prendre l'engagement de ne pas m'y établir, en propriétaire, il s'entend, car en dépositaire je ne dis pas; il pourrait se faire que les circonstances me misent dans le cas d'occuper Constantinople, si rien ne se trouve prévu, si l'on doit tout laisser aller au hasard."

I thanked his Majesty for the frankness of his declarations, and for the desire which he had expressed of acting cordially and openly with her Majesty's Government, observing at the same time that such an understanding appeared the best security against the sudden danger to which his Majesty had alluded. I added that, although unprepared to give a decided opinion upon questions of such magnitude and delicacy, it appeared to me possible that some such arrangement might be made between her Majesty's Government and his Majesty as might guard, if not for, at least against certain contingencies.

To render my meaning more clear, I said, further, "I can only repeat, Sir, that in my opinion, her Majesty's Government will be indisposed to make certain arrangements connected with the downfall of Turkey; but it is possible that they may be ready to pledge themselves against certain arrangements which might, in that event, be attempted."

His Imperial Majesty then alluded to a conversation which he had held, the last time he was in England, with the Duke of Wellington, and to the motives which had compelled him to open himself to his Grace; then, as now, his Majesty was, he said, eager to provide against events which, in the absence of any concert, might compel him to act in a manner opposed to the views of her Majesty's Government.

The conversation passed to the events of the day, when the Emperor briefly recapitulated his claims upon the Holy Places—claims recognised by the firm of last February, and confirmed by a sanction to which his Majesty said he attached much more importance—the word of a Sovereign.

With regard to a French expedition to the Sultan's dominions, his Majesty intimated that such a step would bring affairs to an immediate crisis; that a sense of honour would compel him to send his forces into Turkey without delay or hesitation; that if the result of such an advance should prove to be the overthrow of the Great Turk (*le Grand Turc*), he should regret the event, but should feel that he had acted as he was compelled to do.

To the above report I have only, I think, to add, that the Emperor desired to leave it to my discretion to communicate or not to his Minister the particulars of our conversation; and that before I left the room his Imperial Majesty said, "You will report what has passed between us to the Queen's Government, and you will say that I shall be ready to receive any communication which it may be their wish to make to me upon the subject."

I have, &c., G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 3.

Dated Jan. 22, 1853, simply notifies to Lord John Russell that Sir G. H. Seymour communicated to Count Nesselrode a correct summary of the above conversation.

No. 4.

LORD J. RUSSELL TO SIR G. H. SEYMOUR.  
(Secret and confidential.)

Foreign-office, Feb. 9, 1853.

Sir,—I have received and laid before the Queen your secret and confidential despatch of the 22nd of January.

Her Majesty, upon this, as upon former occasions, is happy to acknowledge the moderation, the frankness, and the friendly disposition of his Imperial Majesty.

Her Majesty has directed me to reply in the same spirit of temperate, candid, and amicable discussion.

The question raised by his Imperial Majesty is a very serious one. It is, supposing the contingency of the dissolution of the Turkish empire to be probable, or even imminent, "whether it is not better to be provided beforehand for a contingency, than to incur the chaos, confusion, and the certainty of a European war, all of which must attend the catastrophe if it should occur unexpectedly, and before some ulterior system has been sketched; this is the point," said his Imperial Majesty, "to which I am desirous that you should call the attention of your Government."

In considering this grave question, the first reflection which occurs to her Majesty's Government is, that no actual crisis has occurred which renders necessary a solution of this vast European problem. Disputes have arisen respecting the Holy Places, but these are without the sphere of the internal government of Turkey, and concern Russia and France rather than the Sublime Porte. Some disturbance of the relations between Austria and the Porte has been caused by the Turkish attack on Montenegro; but this, again, relates rather to dangers affecting the frontier of Austria than the authority and safety of the Sultan; so that there is no sufficient cause for intimating to the Sultan that he cannot keep peace at home, or preserve friendly relations with his neighbours.

It occurs further to her Majesty's Government to remark that the event which is contemplated is not definitely fixed in point of time. When William III. and Louis XIV. disposed, by treaty, of the succession of Charles II. of Spain, they were providing for an event which could not be far off. The infirmities of the Sovereign of Spain and the certain end of any human life made the contingency in prospect both sure and near. The death of the Spanish King was in no way hastened by the treaty of partition. The same thing may be said of the provision, made in the last century, for the disposal of Tuscany upon the decease of the last Prince of the house of Medici. But the contingency of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire is of another kind. It may happen, twenty, fifty, or a hundred years hence.

In these circumstances it would hardly be consistent with the friendly feelings towards the Sultan which animate the Emperor of Russia, no less than the Queen of Great Britain, to dispose beforehand of the provinces under his dominion. Besides this consideration, however, it must be observed, that an agreement made in such a case tends very surely to hasten the contingency for which it is intended to provide. Austria and France could not, in fairness, be kept in ignorance of the transaction, nor would such concealment be consistent with the end of preventing an European war. Indeed, such concealment cannot be intended by his Imperial Majesty. It is to be inferred that, as soon as Great Britain and Russia should have agreed on the course to be pursued, and have determined to enforce it, they should communicate their intentions to the great Powers of Europe. An agreement thus made, and thus communicated, would not be very long a secret; and while it would alarm and alienate the Sultan, the knowledge of its existence would stimulate all his enemies to increased violence and more obstinate conflict. They would fight with the conviction that they must ultimately triumph, while the Sultan's generals and troops would feel that no immediate success could save their cause from final overthrow. Thus would be produced and strengthened that very anarchy which is now feared, and the foresight of the friends of the patient would prove the cause of his death.

Her Majesty's Government need scarcely enlarge on the dangers attending on the execution of any similar convention. The example of the Succession War is enough to show how little such agreements are respected when a pressing temptation urges their violation. The position of the Emperor of Russia as depositary, but not proprietor, of Constantinople, would be exposed to numberless hazards, both from the long-cherished ambition of his own nation, and the jealousies of Europe. The ultimate proprietor, whoever he might be, would hardly be satisfied with the inert, supine attitude of the heirs of Mahomet II. A great influence on the affairs of Europe seems naturally to belong to the Sovereign of Constantinople, holding the gates of the Mediterranean and the Black Seas.

That influence might be used in favour of Russia; it might be used to control and curb her power.

His Imperial Majesty has justly and wisely said: "My country is so vast, so happily circumstanced in every way, that it would be unreasonable in me to desire more territory or more power than I possess. On the contrary," he observed, "our great, perhaps our only, danger, is that which would arise from an extension given to an empire already too large." A vigorous and ambitious State, replacing the Sublime Porte, might, however, render war, on the part of Russia a necessity for the Emperor or his successor.

Thus, European conflict would arise from the very means taken to prevent it; for neither England nor France, nor probably Austria, would be content to see Constantinople permanently in the hands of Russia.

On the part of Great Britain, her Majesty's Government at once declare that they renounce all intention or wish to hold Constantinople. His Imperial Majesty may be quite secure upon this head. They are

likewise ready to give an assurance that they will enter into no agreement to provide for the contingency of the fall of Turkey without previous communication with the Emperor of Russia.

Upon the whole, then, her Majesty's Government are persuaded that no course of policy can be adopted more wise, more disinterested, more beneficial to Europe than that which his Imperial Majesty has so long followed, and which will render his name more illustrious than that of the most famous Sovereigns who have sought immortality by unprovoked conquest and ephemeral glory.

With a view to the success of this policy, it is desirable that the utmost forbearance should be manifested towards Turkey; that any demands which the great Powers of Europe may have to make should be made matter of friendly negotiation rather than of peremptory demand; that military and naval demonstrations to coerce the Sultan should as much as possible be avoided; that differences with respect to matters affecting Turkey, within the competence of the Sublime Porte, should be decided after mutual concert between the great Powers, and not be forced upon the weakness of the Turkish Government.

To these cautions her Majesty's Government wish to add, that in their view it is essential that the Sultan should be advised to treat his Christian subjects in conformity with the principles of equity and religious freedom which prevail generally among the enlightened nations of Europe. The more the Turkish Government adopts the rules of impartial law and equal administration, the less will the Emperor of Russia find it necessary to apply that exceptional protection which his Imperial Majesty has found so burdensome and inconvenient, though no doubt prescribed by duty and sanctioned by treaty.

You may read this despatch to Count Nesselrode, and, if it is desired, you may yourself place a copy of it in the hands of the Emperor. In that case you will accompany its presentation with those assurances of friendship and confidence on the part of her Majesty the Queen, which the conduct of his Imperial Majesty was so sure to inspire.

I, am, &c.,

J. RUSSELL.

No. 5.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—(Received March 6.)  
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.]

St. Petersburg, Feb. 21, 1853.

The Emperor came up to me last night, at a party of the Grand Duchess Hereditary, and in the most gracious manner took me apart, saying that he desired to speak to me. After expressing, in flattering terms, the confidence which he has in me, and his readiness to speak to me without reserve upon matters of the greatest moment, as, his Majesty observed, he had proved in a late conversation, he said: "And it is well it is so; for what I most desire is, that there should be the greatest intimacy between the two Governments. It never was so necessary as at present. Well," the Emperor continued, "so you have got your answer, and you are to bring it to me to-morrow?"

"I am to have that honour, Sir," I answered, "but your Majesty is aware that the nature of the reply is very exactly what I had led you to expect."

"So I was sorry to hear; but I think your Government does not well understand my object. I am not so eager about what shall be done when the sick man dies, as I am to determine with England what shall not be done upon that event taking place."

"But, Sir," I replied, "allow me to observe that we have no reason to think that the sick man (to use your Majesty's expression) is dying. We are as much interested as we believe your Majesty to be in his continuing to live; while, for myself, I will venture to remark that experience shows me that countries do not die in such a hurry. Turkey will remain for many a year, unless some unforeseen crisis should occur. It is precisely, Sir, for the avoidance of all circumstances likely to produce such a crisis that her Majesty's Government reckons upon your generous assistance."

"Then," rejoined the Emperor, "I will tell you that, if your Government has been led to believe that Turkey retains any elements of existence, your Government must have received incorrect information. I repeat to you, that the sick man is dying; and we can never allow such an event to take us by surprise. We must come to some understanding; and this we should do, I am convinced, if I could hold but ten minutes' conversation with your Ministers—with Lord Aberdeen, for instance, who knows me so well, who has full confidence in me, as I have in him. And, remember, I do not ask for a treaty or a protocol; a general understanding is all I require—that between gentlemen is sufficient; and, in this case, I am certain that the confidence would be as great on the side of the Queen's Ministers as on mine. So no more for the present; you will come to me to-morrow; and you will remember that, as often as you think your conversing with me will promote a good understanding upon any point, you will send word that you wish to see me."

I thanked his Majesty very cordially, adding that I could assure him that her Majesty's Government, I was convinced, considered his word, once given, as good as a bond.

No. 6.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—(Received March 6.)  
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.]

St. Petersburg, Feb. 22, 1853.

I had the honour of waiting yesterday upon the Emperor, and of holding with his Majesty one of the most interesting conversations in which I ever found myself engaged. My only regret is my inability to report in full detail a dialogue which lasted an hour and twelve minutes.

The Emperor began by desiring me to read to him aloud your Lordship's secret and confidential despatch of the 9th inst., saying that he should stop me occasionally, either to make an observation, or to call upon me for the translation of a passage.

Upon arriving at the fourth paragraph, the Emperor desired me to pause, and observed, that he was certainly most desirous that some understanding should be entered into with her Majesty's Government for providing against a contingency so probable as that of the downfall of Turkey; that he was, perhaps, even more interested than England could be in preventing a Turkish catastrophe, but that it was constantly impending; that it might be brought about at any moment, either by an external war, or by a feud between the old Turkish party and that of the "new superficial French reforms;" or again, by a rising of the Christians, already known to be very impatient of shaking off the Mussulman yoke (*joug*). As regards the first cause, the Emperor said that he had a good right to advert to it, inasmuch as, if he had not stopped the victorious progress of General Diebitch in 1829, the Sultan's authority would have been at an end.

The Emperor likewise desired me to remember that he, and he only, had hastened to the assistance of the Sultan, when his dominions were threatened by the Pacha of Egypt.

I proceeded to read, and was again stopped at the sentence beginning "In these circumstances it would hardly be consistent with the friendly feelings," when the Emperor observed that her Majesty's Government did not appear to be aware that his chief object was to obtain from her Majesty's Government some declaration, or even opinion, of what ought not to be permitted in the event of the sudden downfall of Turkey. I said, "Perhaps your Majesty would be good enough to explain your own ideas upon this negative policy." This his Majesty for some time declined doing; he ended, however, by saying: "Well, there are several things which I never will tolerate; I will begin by myself. I will not tolerate the permanent occupation of Constantinople by the Russians; having said this, I will say that it never shall be held by the English, or French, or any other great nation. Again, I never will permit an attempt at the reconstruction of a Byzantine empire, or such an extension of Greece as would render her a powerful state; still less will I permit the breaking up of Turkey into little republics, sultans for the Kossuths and Mazzinis, and other revolutionists of Europe. Rather than submit to any of these arrangements I would go to war, and as long as I have a man and a musket left would carry it on. These," the Emperor said, "are at once some ideas. Now give me some in return."

I remarked upon the assurance which would be found respecting the English resolution of never attempting to possess Constantinople, and, upon the disinclination of her Majesty's Government to enter into eventual arrangements. But, upon being still pressed by his Imperial Majesty, I said—"Well, Sir, the idea may not suit your Majesty, may not suit her Majesty's Government; but what is good between man and man is often a good system between one State and another. How would it be if, in the event of any catastrophe occurring in Turkey, Russia and England were to declare that no power should be allowed to take possession of its provinces; that the property should remain, as it were, under seals, until amicable arrangements could be made as to its adjudication?"

"I will not say," the Emperor observed, "that such a course would be impossible, but, at least, it would be very difficult; there are no elements of provincial or communal government in Turkey; you would have Turks attacking Christians, Christians falling upon Turks,

Christians of different sects quarrelling with each other—in short, chaos and anarchy."

"Sir," I then observed, "if your Majesty will allow me to speak plainly, I would say that the great difference between us is this—that you continue to dwell upon the fall of Turkey, and the arrangements requisite before and after the fall; and that we, on the contrary, look to Turkey remaining where she is, and to the precautions which are necessary for preventing her condition from becoming worse."

"Ah!" replied the Emperor, "that is what the Chancellor is perpetually telling me; but the catastrophe will occur some day, and take us all unawares."

His Imperial Majesty spoke of France. "God forbid," he said, "that I should accuse any one wrongfully; but there are circumstances, both at Constantinople and Montenegro, which are extremely suspicious; it looks very much as if the French Government were endeavouring to embroil us all in the East, hoping in this way the better to arrive at their own objects—one of which, no doubt, is the possession of Tunis."

The Emperor then proceeded to say that, for his own part, he cared very little what line the French might think proper to take in Eastern affairs, and that little more than a month ago he had apprised the Sultan that if his assistance was required for resisting the menaces of the French, it was entirely at the service of the Sultan.

In a word, the Emperor went on to observe, "As I before told you, all I want is a good understanding with England, and this not as to what shall, but as to what shall not be done; this point arrived at—the English Government and I, and the English Government, having entire confidence in one another's views—I care nothing about the rest."

I remarked that I felt confident that her Majesty's Government could be as little disposed as his Imperial Majesty to tolerate the presence of the French at Constantinople; and being desirous, if possible, of ascertaining whether there was any understanding between the Cabinets of St. Petersburg and Vienna, I added, "But your Majesty has forgotten Austria: now all these Eastern questions affect her very nearly; she, of course, would expect to be consulted."

"Oh!" replied the Emperor, greatly to my surprise, "but you must understand that when I speak of Russia I speak of Austria as well; what suits the one suits the other; our interests as regards Turkey are perfectly identical." I should have been glad to make another inquiry or two upon this subject, but I did not venture to do so.

I ought to have stated that in a preceding part of the conversation his Majesty, although without any appearance of anger, evinced some surprise at an expression in your Lordship's despatch, "the long-cherished ambition of his (the Emperor's) own nation;" he would ask what that phrase meant?

It happened that I was prepared for the surprise expressed, and ready to answer any reflection which it might call forth.

"Sir," I said, "Lord John Russell is not speaking of your ambition; he speaks of that entertained by your people."

The Emperor could not at first admit that the phrase was applicable to the Russian nation any more than to himself; when I said, "Your Majesty will permit me to remark that Lord John Russell only repeats what was said thirty years ago by your brother, of glorious memory. In writing confidentially to Lord Castlereagh, in the year 1822, the Emperor Alexander spoke of being the only Russian who resisted the views of his subjects upon Turkey, and of the loss of popularity which he had sustained by this antagonism."

This quotation, which, by accident, I could make almost in the words of the letter, seemed to change the current of the Emperor's ideas.

"You are quite right," he said; "I remember the events to which my late brother alluded. Now it is perfectly true that the Empress Catherine indulged in all sorts of visions of ambition, but it is not less so that these ideas are not at all shared by her descendants. You see how I am behaving towards the Sultan. This gentleman (*ce monsieur*) breaks his written word to me, and acts in a manner extremely displeasing to me, and I have contented myself with despatching an Ambassador to Constantinople, to demand reparation. Certainly, I could send an army there if I chose—there is nothing to stop them; but I have contented myself with such a show of force as will prove that I have no intention of being trifled with."

His Imperial Majesty spoke of Montenegro, observing that he approved the attitude taken by the Austrian Cabinet, and that in these days it could not be permitted that the Turks should ill-treat and even murder a Christian population.

I ventured to remark that upon this point the wrongs were at least divided between the Turks and the Montenegrins, and that I had full reason for believing that the provocation came from the latter. The Emperor, with more impartiality than I had expected, admitted that there had been wrongs on both sides; that certainly the mountaineers were rather addicted to brigandage; and that the taking of Djiblak had caused him great indignation. At the same time his Majesty said, "It is impossible not to feel great interest in a population warmly attached to their religion, who have so long kept their ground against the Turks;" and the Emperor continued—"It may be fair to tell you that if any attempts at exterminating those people should be made by Omer Pacha, and should a general rising of the Christians take place in consequence, the Sultan will, in all probability, lose his throne; but in this case he falls to rise no more. I wish to support his authority; but, if he loses it, it is gone for ever. The Turkish empire is a thing to be tolerated, not to be reconstructed. In such a cause, I protest to you I will not allow a pistol to be fired."

The Emperor went on to say that, in the event of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire, he thought it might be less difficult to arrive at a satisfactory territorial arrangement than was commonly believed. "The Principalities are," he said, "in fact, an independent State under my protection; this might so continue. Servia might receive the same form of government. So again with Bulgaria. There seems to be no reason why this province should not form an independent state. As to Egypt, I quite understand the importance to England of that territory. I can then only say, that if, in the event of a distribution of the Ottoman succession upon the fall of the empire, you should take possession of Egypt, I shall have no objections to offer. I would say the same thing of Candia: that island might suit you, and I do not know why it should not become an English possession."

As I did not wish that the Emperor should imagine that an English public servant was caught by this sort of overture, I simply answered that I had always understood that the English views upon Egypt did not go beyond the point of securing a safe and ready communication between British India and the mother country.

The conversation now drawing towards an end, the Emperor expressed his warm attachment to the Queen our gracious Sovereign, and his respect for her Majesty's present advisers. The declarations contained in your Lordship's despatch had been, he said, very satisfactory; he could only desire that they should be a little amplified. The terms in which your Lordship had spoken of his conduct were, the Emperor said, very flattering to him.

In dismissing me, his Imperial Majesty said—"Well, induce your Government to write again upon those subjects—to write more fully, and to do so without hesitation. I have confidence in the English Government. Ce n'est point un engagement, une convention que je leur demande; c'est un libre échange d'idées, et, au besoin, une parole de gentleman; entre nous cela suffit."

No. 7.

From Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Clarendon, dated March 9th, incloses a confidential memorandum, which his Imperial Majesty had caused to be drawn up, and which was intended as an answer to, or a comment upon, the communication which Sir G. H. Seymour had made to his Imperial Majesty on the 21st ult., and which Sir George describes as one that cannot fall of being considered as one of the most remarkable papers that had ever been issued from the Emperor's secret Cabinet.

(Translation.) Feb. 21, 1853.

The Emperor has, with the liveliest interest and real satisfaction, made himself acquainted with the secret and confidential despatch which Sir Hamilton Seymour communicated to him. He duly appreciates the frankness which has dictated it. He has found therein a fresh proof of the friendly sentiments which her Majesty the Queen entertains for him.

In conversing familiarly with the British Envoy on the causes which, from one day to another, may bring on the fall of the Ottoman Empire, it had by no means entered into the Emperor's thoughts to propose for this contingency a plan by which Russia and England should dispose beforehand of the provinces ruled by the Sultan—a system altogether arranged; still less a formal agreement to be concluded between the two Cabinets. It was purely and simply the Emperor's notion that each party should confidentially state to the other less what it wishes than what it does not wish; what would be contrary to English interests, what would be contrary to Russian interests; in order that, the case occurring, they might avoid acting in opposition to each other.

There is in this neither plans of partition, nor convention to be binding on the other Courts. It is merely an interchange of opinions, and the Emperor sees no necessity of talking about it before the time. It is

(Continued on page 281.)





LEOPARD (FLAG)—ADMIRAL FLEMING.

VALOROUS.

DRAGON. ST. JEAN D'ACRE.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON  
(FLAG)—ADMIRAL NAIFER.

ROYAL GEORGE.

PRINCESS  
ROYAL.

IMPERIEUSE. ARROGANT.

AMPHION. TRIBUNE. AJAX. BLENHEIM. LA HOGUE.

EDINBURGH  
(FLAG)—ADMIRAL CHADS.

THE BALTIC FLEET RUNNING FOR DOVER STRAITS.—SKETCHED BY O. W. BRIERLEY.—(SEE PAGE 278.)



(Continued from page 279.)

precisely for that reason that he took especial care not to make it the object of an official communication from one Cabinet to the other. By confining himself to speaking of it himself, in the shape of familiar conversation, to the Queen's representative, he selected the most friendly and confidential form of opening himself with frankness to her Britannic Majesty, being desirous that the result, whatever it might be, of these communications, should remain, as it ought to be, a secret between the two Sovereigns.

"Consequently, the objections which Lord John Russell raises to any concealment as regards the other Powers, in the event of a formal agreement being entered into—of which there is at present no question—fall to the ground; and consequently, also, the inconveniences disappear, which he points out as calculated to contribute to hasten the occurrence of the very event which Russia and England are desirous of averting, if the existence of such an agreement should become prematurely known to Europe and to the subjects of the Sultan.

As regards the object of this wholly confidential interchange of opinions, the possible downfall of the Ottoman empire, doubtless, that is but an uncertain and remote contingency. Unquestionably, the period of it cannot be fixed; and no real crisis has arisen to render the realization of it imminent. But, after all, it may happen; happen even unexpectedly. Without mentioning the ever-increasing causes of dissolution which are presented by the moral, financial, and administrative condition of the Porte, it may proceed gradually from one, at least, of the two questions mentioned by the English Ministry in its secret despatch. In truth, it perceives in those questions only mere disputes, which would not differ in their bearing from difficulties which form the ordinary business of diplomacy. But that kind of dispute may, nevertheless, bring on war; and, with war, the consequences which the Emperor apprehends from it. If, for instance, in the affair of the Holy Places, the *amour propre* and the menaces of France, continuing to press upon the Porte, should compel it to refuse us all satisfaction; and if, on the other hand, the religious sentiments of the orthodox Greeks, offended by the concessions made to the Latins, should raise the immense majority of his subjects against the Sultan. As regards the affair of Montenegro, that, according to the late accounts, may happily be looked upon as settled. But, at the time that the Emperor had his interview with Sir Hamilton Seymour, it might be apprehended that the question would take a most serious turn. Neither ourselves nor Austria could have allowed a protracted devastation or forced submission of Montenegro—a country which, up to the present time, has continued actually independent of the Porte—a country over which our protection has been extended for more than a century. The horrors which are committed there—those which, by Ottoman fanaticism, have, a short time since, been extended over Bulgaria, Bosnia, and the Herzegovine—gave the other Christian provinces of the Porte only too much reason to anticipate that the same fate awaited them. They were calculated to provoke the general rising of the Christians who live under the sceptre of the Turkish empire, and to hasten its ruin. It is not, then, by any means an idle and imaginary question—a contingency too remote—to which the anxiety of the Emperor has called the attention of the Queen his ally.

In the face of the uncertainty and decay of the existing state of things in Turkey the English Cabinet expresses the desire that the greatest forbearance should be shown towards the Porte. The Emperor is conscious of never having acted otherwise. The English Cabinet itself admits it. It addresses to the Emperor, with reference to the numerous proofs of moderation which he has given up to the present time, praises which his Majesty will not accept, because in that he has only listened to his own overbearing conviction. But, in order that the Emperor may continue to concur in that system of forbearance, to abstain from any demonstrations—from any peremptory language—it would be necessary that this system should be equally observed by all the Powers at once. France has adopted another. By menace she obtained, in opposition to the letter of the treaties, the admission of a ship of the line into the Dardanelles. At the cannon's mouth she twice presented her claims, and her demands for indemnity, at Tripoli, and afterwards at Constantinople. Again, in the contest respecting the Holy Places, by menace she effected the abrogation of the firman and that of the solemn promises which the Sultan had given the Emperor. With regard to all these acts of violence England observed a complete silence. She neither offered support to the Porte nor addressed remonstrances to the French Government. The consequence is very evident. The Porte necessarily concluded from this that from France alone it has everything to hope as well as everything to fear, and that it can evade with impunity the demands of Austria and of Russia. It is thus that Austria and Russia, in order to obtain justice, have seen themselves compelled, in their turn, against their will, to act by intimidation, since they have to do with a Government which only yields to a peremptory attitude; and it is thus that by its own fault, or rather by that of those who have weakened it in the first instance, the Porte is urged on in a course which enfeebles it still more. Let England, then, employ herself in making it listen to reason. Instead of uniting herself with France against the just demands of Russia, let her avoid supporting, or even appearing to support, the resistance of the Ottoman Government. Let her be the first to invite the latter, as she herself considers it essential, to treat its Christian subjects with more equity and humanity. That will be the surest means of relieving the Emperor from the obligation of availing himself in Turkey of those rights of traditional protection to which he never has recourse but against his will, and of postponing indefinitely the crisis which the Emperor and her Majesty the Queen are equally anxious to avert.

In short, the Emperor cannot but congratulate himself at having given occasion for this intimate interchange of confidential communications between her Majesty and himself. He has found therein valuable assurances, of which he takes note with a lively satisfaction. The two Sovereigns have frankly explained to each other what, in the extreme cases of which they have been treating, their respective interests cannot endure. England understands that Russia cannot suffer the establishment at Constantinople of a Christian Power sufficiently strong to control and disquiet her. She declares that for herself she renounces any intention or desire to possess Constantinople. The Emperor equally disclaims any wish or design of establishing himself there. England promises that she will enter into no arrangement for determining the measures to be taken in the event of the fall of the Turkish empire, without a previous understanding with the Emperor. The Emperor, on his side, willingly contracts the same engagement. As he is aware that in such a case he can equally reckon upon Austria, who is bound by her promises to concert with him, he regards with less apprehension the catastrophe which he still desires to prevent and avert as much as it shall depend on him to do so.

No less precious to him are the proofs of friendship and personal confidence on the part of her Majesty the Queen, which Sir Hamilton Seymour has been directed on this occasion to impart to him. He sees in them the surest guarantee against the contingency which his foresight had deemed it right to point out to that of the English Government.

No. 8.

Dated on the same day as the preceding, informs the Earl of Clarendon that, as the important document enclosed in No. 7 appeared to have been drawn up under a complete misapprehension, real or assumed, of the part taken by the British Government in the affairs of Turkey, Sir G. H. Seymour had thought it his duty to address an explanatory letter to Count Nesselrode. Sir G. H. Seymour encloses the letter, which, like all the rest, is marked "private and confidential."

No. 9.

Dated March 10th, informs Lord Clarendon that, in consequence of the communication referred to, Sir G. H. Seymour had a very amicable and satisfactory conversation with the Chancellor; and that the two had read over the memorandum together.

No. 10.

THE EARL OF CLARENDON TO SIR G. H. SEYMOUR.  
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.]

Foreign-office, March 23, 1853.

Sir,—Your despatches of the 21st and 22nd ult. have been laid before the Queen, and I am commanded to express her Majesty's entire approval of the discretion and judgment displayed by you in the conversations which you had the honour to hold with the Emperor.

Her Majesty's Government persevere in the belief that Turkey still possesses the elements of existence; and they consider that recent events have proved the correctness of the opinion expressed in the despatch of my predecessor, that there was no sufficient cause for intimating to the Sultan that he cannot keep peace at home, or preserve friendly relations with his neighbours.

Her Majesty's Government have accordingly learnt with sincere satisfaction that the Emperor considers himself even more interested than

England in preventing a Turkish catastrophe; because they are convinced that upon the policy pursued by his Imperial Majesty towards Turkey will mainly depend the hastening or the indefinite postponement of an event which every Power in Europe is concerned in averting. Her Majesty's Government are convinced that nothing is more calculated to precipitate that event than the constant prediction of its being near at hand; that nothing can be more fatal to the vitality of Turkey than the assumption of its rapid and inevitable decay; and that if the opinion of the Emperor that the days of the Turkish empire were numbered became notorious, its downfall must occur even sooner than his Imperial Majesty now appears to expect.

But, on the supposition, that, from unavoidable causes, the catastrophe did take place, her Majesty's Government entirely share the opinion of the Emperor that the occupation of Constantinople by either of the great Powers would be incompatible with the present balance of power and the maintenance of peace in Europe, and must at once be regarded as impossible; that there are no elements for the reconstruction of a Byzantine empire; that the systematic misgovernment of Greece offers no encouragement to extend its territorial dominion; and that, as there are no materials for provincial or communal government, anarchy would be the result of leaving the provinces of Turkey to themselves, or permitting them to form separate republics.

The Emperor has announced that, sooner than permit a settlement of the question by any one of these methods, he will be prepared for war at every hazard; and, however much her Majesty's Government may be disposed to agree in the soundness of the views taken by his Imperial Majesty, yet they consider that the simple predetermination of what shall not be tolerated does little towards solving the real difficulties, or settling in what manner it would be practicable, or even desirable, to deal with the heterogeneous materials of which the Turkish empire is composed.

England desires no territorial aggrandizement, and could be no party to a previous arrangement from which she was to derive any such benefit. England could be no party to any understanding, however general, that was to be kept secret from other Powers: but her Majesty's Government believe that no arrangements could control events, and that no understanding could be kept secret. They would, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, be the signal for preparation for intrigues of every description, and for revolts among the Christian subjects of the Porte. Each Power, and each party would endeavour to secure its future interests, and the dissolution of the Turkish empire would be preceded by a state of anarchy which must aggravate every difficulty, if it did not render a peaceful solution of the question impossible.

The only mode by which such a solution could be attempted would be that of a European Congress, but that only affords an additional reason for desiring that the present order of things in Turkey should be maintained, as her Majesty's Government cannot, without alarm, reflect on the jealousies that would then be evoked, the impossibility of reconciling the different ambitions and the divergent interests that would be called into play, and the certainty that the treaties of 1815 must then be open to revision, when France might be prepared to risk the chances of a European war, to get rid of the obligations which she considers injurious to her national honour, and which, having been imposed by victorious enemies, are a constant source of irritation to her.

Her Majesty's Government believe that Turkey only requires forbearance on the part of its allies, and a determination not to press their claims in a manner humiliating to the dignity and independence of the Sultan—that friendly support, in short, that, with States as with individuals, the weak are entitled to expect from the strong—in order not only to prolong its existence, but to remove all cause of alarm respecting its dissolution.

Nos. 11 and 12.

From Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Clarendon, refer to a memorandum written in pencil by the Emperor, on the confidential memorandum of February 21st. The Emperor imagined that Sir G. H. Seymour had considered a passage in that paper as reflecting upon the conduct of the British Government, and had authorized Count Nesselrode to modify it if necessary.

No. 13.

From the Earl of Clarendon to Sir G. H. Seymour, dated 5th April, 1853, expresses the opinion of her Majesty's Government that no useful purpose would be served by prolonging the correspondence. His Lordship states that "her Majesty's Government observe with pleasure that, in the opinion of the Emperor, the fall of the Turkish empire is looked upon as an uncertain and distant contingency, and that no real crisis has occurred to render its realization imminent." His Lordship concludes by adding that, "as her Majesty and the Emperor have now mutually renewed the assurances of their intention to uphold the independence and integrity of the Turkish empire, it is the earnest desire of her Majesty's Government that the representatives of the two Powers may henceforward co-operate together in carrying out this intention by giving similar advice in the same friendly spirit to the Porte.

No. 14.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO THE EARL OF CLARENDON.  
(Received May 2.)  
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.]

St. Petersburg, April 20, 1853.

The Emperor, on rising from the table when I had the honour of dining at the palace on the 18th inst., desired me to follow him into the next room.

His Majesty then said that he had wished to state to me the real and sincere satisfaction which he received from your Lordship's despatch, marked "Secret and confidential," of the 23rd ultimo.

It had been, his Majesty said, most agreeable to him to find that the overtures which he had addressed to her Majesty's Government had been responded to in the same friendly spirit in which they were made; that, to use a former expression, there was nothing in which he placed so much reliance as *la parole d'un gentilhomme*—that he felt that the relations of the two Courts stood upon a better basis now than that a clear understanding had been obtained as to points, which, if left in doubt, might have been productive of misintelligence; and, as his Majesty was pleased to add, he felt obliged to me for having contributed towards bringing about this friendly *entente*.

And his Majesty said, "I beg you to understand, that what I have pledged myself to will be equally binding on my successor; there now exist memorandums of my intentions, and whatever I have promised, my son, if the changes alluded to should occur in his time, would be as ready to perform as his father would have been."

No. 15.

From Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Clarendon, dated 21st April, encloses the following document:—  
(Translation.)

The Emperor has, with lively satisfaction, made himself acquainted with Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 23rd of March. His Majesty congratulates himself on perceiving that his views and those of the English Cabinet entirely coincide on the subject of the political combinations which it would be chiefly necessary to avoid in the extreme case of the contingency occurring in the East which Russia and England have equally at heart to prevent, or, at all events, to delay as long as possible. Sharing generally the opinions expressed by Lord Clarendon on the necessity of the prolonged maintenance of the existing state of things in Turkey, the Emperor, nevertheless, cannot abstain from adverting to a special point which leads him to suppose that the information received by the British Government is not altogether in accordance with ours. It refers to the humanity and the toleration to be shown by Turkey in her manner of treating her Christian subjects.

Putting aside many other example—to the contrary of an old date, it is, for all that, notorious that recently the cruelties committed by the Turks in Bosnia forced hundreds of Christian families to seek refuge in Austria. In other respects, without wishing on this occasion to enter upon a discussion as to the symptoms of decay, more or less evident, presented by the Ottoman Power, or the greater or less degree of vitality which its internal constitution may retain, the Emperor will readily agree that the best means of upholding the duration of the Turkish Government is not to harass it by overbearing demands, supported in a manner humiliating to its independence and its dignity. His Majesty is disposed, as he has ever been, to act upon this system, with the clear understanding, however, that the same rule of conduct shall be observed, without distinction, and unanimously, by each of the great Powers, and that none of them shall take advantage of the weakness of the Porte to obtain from it concessions which might turn to the prejudice of the others. This principle being laid down, the Emperor declares that he is ready to labour, in concert with England, at the common work of prolonging the existence of the Turkish empire, setting aside all cause of

alarm on the subject of its dissolution. He readily accepts the evidence offered by the British Cabinet of entire confidence in the uprightness of his sentiments, and the hope that, on this basis, his alliance with England cannot fail to become stronger.—St. Petersburg, April 3 (15), 1853.

#### NEGOTIATION IN 1844.

The following is the memorandum by Count Nesselrode delivered to her Majesty's Government, and founded on communications received from the Emperor of Russia subsequently to his Imperial Majesty's visit to England in June, 1844:—  
(Translation.)

Russia and England are mutually penetrated by the conviction that it is for their common interest that the Ottoman Porte should maintain itself in the state of independence and of territorial possession which at present constitute that empire, as that political combination is the one which is most compatible with the general interest of the maintenance of peace.

Being agreed on this principle, Russia and England have an equal interest in uniting their efforts in order to keep up the existence of the Ottoman empire, and to avert all the dangers which can place in jeopardy its safety.

With this object, the essential point is to suffer the Porte to live in repose, without needlessly disturbing it by diplomatic bickerings, and without interfering, unless with absolute necessity, in its internal affairs.

In order to carry out skilfully this system of forbearance, with a view to the well-understood interest of the Porte, two things must not be lost sight of. They are these:—

In the first place, the Porte has a constant tendency to extricate itself from the engagements imposed upon it by the treaties which it has concluded with other Powers. It hopes to do so with impunity, because it reckons on the mutual jealousy of the Cabinets. It thinks that, if it fails in its engagements towards one of them, the rest will espouse its quarrel, and will screen it from all responsibility.

It is essential not to confirm the Porte in this delusion. Every time that it fails in its obligations towards one of the great Powers, it is the interest of all the rest to make it sensible of its error, and seriously to exhort it to act rightly towards the Cabinet which demands just reparation.

As soon as the Porte shall perceive that it is not supported by the other Cabinets, it will give way; and the differences which have arisen will be arranged in a conciliatory manner, without any conflict resulting from them.

There is a second cause of complication which is inherent in the situation of the Porte: it is the difficulty which exists in reconciling the respect due to the sovereign authority of the Sultan, founded on the Mussulman law, with the forbearance required by the interests of the Christian population of that empire.

This difficulty is real. In the present state of feeling in Europe, the Cabinets cannot see with indifference the Christian populations in Turkey exposed to flagrant acts of oppression and religious intolerance.

It is necessary constantly to make the Ottoman Ministers sensible of this truth, and to persuade them that they can only reckon on the friendship and on the support of the great Powers on the condition that they treat the Christian subjects of the Porte with toleration and with mildness.

While insisting on this truth, it will be the duty of the foreign representatives, on the other hand, to exert all their influence to maintain the Christian subjects of the Porte in submission to the sovereign authority.

It will be the duty of the foreign representatives, guided by these principles, to act among themselves in a perfect spirit of agreement. If they address remonstrances to the Porte, those remonstrances must bear a real character of unanimity, though divested of one of exclusive dictation. By persevering in this system with calmness and moderation, the representatives of the great Cabinets of Europe will have the best chance of succeeding in the steps which they may take, without giving occasion for complications which might affect the tranquillity of the Ottoman empire. If all the great Powers frankly adopt this line of conduct, they will have a well-founded expectation of preserving the existence of Turkey.

However, they must not conceal from themselves how many elements of dissolution that empire contains within itself. Unforeseen circumstances may hasten its fall, without its being in the power of the friendly Cabinets to prevent it.

As it is not given to human foresight to settle beforehand a plan of action for such or such unlooked-for case, it would be premature to discuss eventualities which may never be realised.

In the uncertainty which hovers over the future, a single fundamental idea seems to admit of a really practical application; it is that the danger which may result from a catastrophe in Turkey will be much diminished if, in the event of its occurring, Russia and England have come to an understanding as to the course to be taken by them in common.

That understanding will be the more beneficial, inasmuch as it will have the full assent of Austria. Between her and Russia there exists already an entire conformity of principles in regard to the affairs of Turkey, in a common interest of conservatism and of peace.

In order to render their union more efficacious, there would remain nothing to be desired but that England should be seen to associate herself therewith with the same view.

The reason which recommends the establishment of this agreement is very simple.

On land Russia exercises, in regard to Turkey, a preponderant action. On sea England occupies the same position.

Isolated, the action of these two Powers might do much mischief. United, it can produce a real benefit; thence the advantage of coming to a previous understanding before having recourse to action.

This notion was in principle agreed upon during the Emperor's last residence in London. The result was the eventual engagement, that if anything unforeseen occurred in Turkey, Russia and England should previously concert together as to the course which they should pursue in common.

The object for which Russia and England will have to come to an understanding may be expressed in the following manner:—

1. To seek to maintain the existence of the Ottoman empire in its present state, so long as that political combination shall be possible.

2. If we foresee that it must crumble to pieces, to enter into previous concert as to everything relating to the establishment of a new order of things, intended to replace that which now exists, and, in conjunction with each other, to see that the change which may have occurred in the internal situation of that empire shall not injuriously affect either the security of their own States and the rights which the treaties assure to them respectively, or the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe.

For the purpose thus stated, the policy of Russia and of Austria, as we have already said, is closely united by the principle of perfect identity. If England, as the principal maritime Power, acts in concert with them, it is to be supposed that France will find herself obliged to act in conformity with the course agreed upon between St. Petersburg, London, and Vienna.

Conflict between the great Powers being thus obviated, it is to be hoped that the peace of Europe will be maintained even in the midst of such serious circumstances. It is to secure this object of common interest, if the case occurs, that, as the Emperor agreed with her Britannic Majesty's Ministers during his residence in England, the previous understanding which Russia and England shall establish between themselves must be directed.

#### BARBADOES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

In the article in your Number of last Saturday, headed "Withdrawal of troops from the West India Islands," your Military Correspondent states that Barbadoes was conquered in 1625. Allow me to correct him in this particular. Barbadoes, although it was known as early as the commencement of the sixteenth century to the Spaniards, and apparently supplied Indians as slaves for their mines in Española (of whose wretched condition, as well as that of the South American natives, the generous Las Casas, by his constant exertions in their favour, procured some amelioration from Charles V., who issued his instructions for that purpose to the Licentiate Rodrigo de Figueroa, in 1518), was never colonised by any other nation than the English, who landed there in 1625, and in whose possession it has ever since remained. Barbadoes has always been one of the most loyal English colonies. It was here that many of those attached to the Royal cause during the civil wars of the middle of the seventeenth century, sought and found an asylum until the chivalric opposition of that small spot roused the ire and vengeance of Cromwell. Its large trade with the Dutch (which the Protector sought to cripple and harass), was the cause which led to the Navigation Laws. It may not be uninteresting to antiquaries to mention, that in the small churchyard of St. John, in this island, is the burial-place of Ferdinand Palaeologus, the sixth in descent from the brother of Constantine, the last of the Greek Emperors, who perished the 29th of May, 1453, in the general assault, when Constantinople was taken by the Turks.  
H. S. M.  
Warwick, March, 1853.





DARIEN SHIP CANAL.—CONFERENCE ON BOARD H.M.S. "ESPIEGLE," IN CALEDONIA BAY.

## THE DARIEN SHIP CANAL EXPEDITION.

By favour of a Correspondent, we are enabled to illustrate another stage of this enterprise—a Conference held on board H.M.S. *Espiegle*, in Caledonia Bay, New Granada, on the 22nd of January last, sketched by Mr. W. F. B. Edwards, of the above ship. The persons present were, commencing from the left-hand of the Sketch, Capt. Hancock, R.N., Mr. Lionel Gisborne, C.E., Dr. Cullen, and Lieut. St. John, R.E.; and seated above is a party of the Darien Indian Chiefs. Of these, the first from the left is "Dennis of Sassardi;" and the fourth, "Robinson," Secretary of State to "Caloga," the old Chief of San Blas. The object

The English and French party, combined, started on the 24th. On that day a party of five, detached from Strain's party, returned to the ship, and reported the obstacles and hardships which they had encountered. They stated they had left Strain and his party in the mountains, eighteen miles distant. They left the ship again with a reinforcement of ten men and ten days' extra provisions, under the charge of Lieutenant Fauntleroy. While I write I see detachments of the French and English party returning to their vessels, and am informed they have come after provisions. A glance at the letter of Lieutenant Fauntleroy, who overtook the English party the day after he left, fully indicates that their own conclusion upon the premises acquired thus far is that the route is impracticable.

Lazaretto. 7th, *Cambria*, from Cork, arrived, 21 officers and 683 men, 50th Regiment; quartered at the Dockyard. 8th, *Himalaya* arrived, in seven days two hours, from Plymouth, with 7 officers and 210 men, Rifles; 6 officers and 100 men, Sappers and Miners; and 33 officers and 911 men, 93rd Highlanders: these last are encamped on the Hornwork outside Port Bombe, and present a very picturesque appearance. 11th, the *Emu*, from Queenstown, arrived, with 29 officers and 803 men, 33rd Regiment: these are encamped on the Crown work above Port Bombe (both camps about three quarters of a mile from the Valetta Gate). 11th, *Vulcan* arrived, with 25 officers and 752 men of the Rifles; and, lastly, yesterday, the *Manilla* arrived, with 280 Grenadiers, complement of 3rd Battalion; landed, and quartered in Fort Manoel. This steamer having damaged her machinery, was delayed at Gibraltar for repairs, or she would have been here sooner.

I send a calotype of the Highlanders' Camp. The usually quiet town of Valetta is quite alive with soldiers, and the variety of uniform gives one a slight idea of what the Chobham Camp must have been. Perfect good feeling exists between the Maltese and the soldiers. The Highlanders and Guards excite particular interest, from their uniform, which is new in these parts. J. L. W.

A fine View of Valetta appeared in our Journal of last week.

## THE WILLOUGHBY TESTIMONIAL.

This handsome Testimonial has lately been presented to Mr. Willoughby; its purpose being related in the following inscription:—

Presented to J. P. Willoughby, Esq., on the occasion of his leaving Bombay on the 3rd of May, 1851, by his friends, as a testimony of the regard and esteem which they entertained for him in his personal character—the high opinion they had formed of him as a most able and devoted servant of the Government—their gratitude for his philanthropic labours in the abolition of Infanticide in the province of Khatliwar, and



THE WILLOUGHBY TESTIMONIAL.

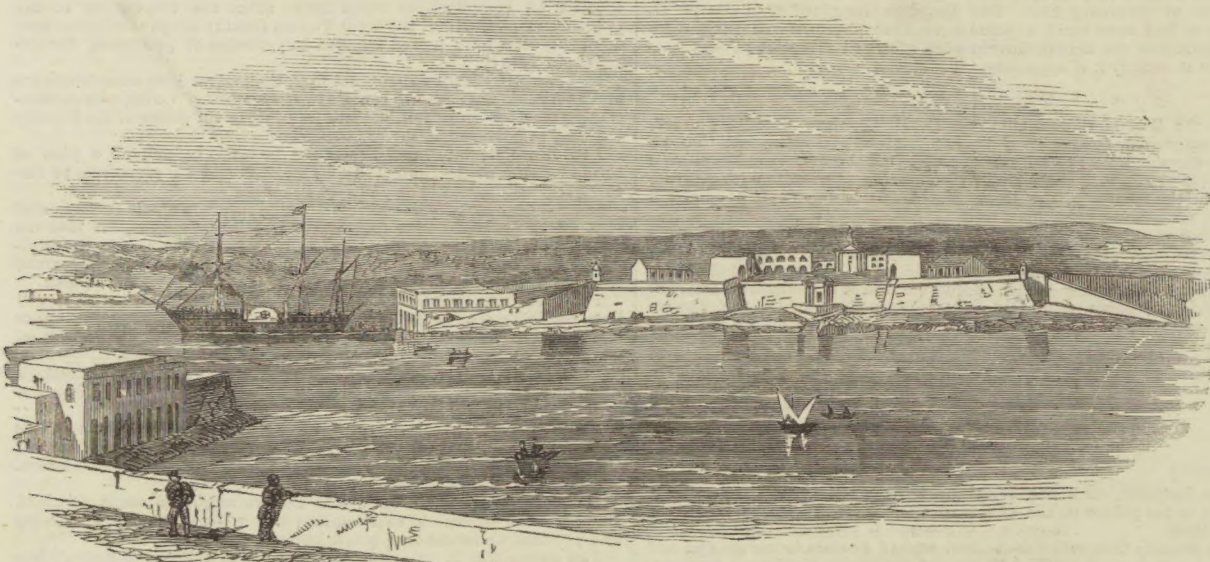
the public spirit which he had uniformly evinced in support of the Philanthropic Educational and Literary Institutions of Bombay. The remainder of the Subscriptions has been invested as a Fund, under the title of the "Willoughby Fund," for the encouragement of the Vernacular Literature in Western India.

The design consists of an Indian column, surmounted by a very elaborate basket. Upon the plinths are two groups, characteristic of Mr. Willoughby's exertions in the suppression of Infanticide.

The first Group represents Wisdom appealing to "Natural Affection;" and the second is emblematic of the blessings resulting from the suppression of Infanticide.

The Plate has been beautifully executed by Messrs. Hunt and Roskill, New Bond-street.

RUSSIAN NEWS ABOUT OUR NAVY.—A St. Petersburg paper of the 10th gives details from London of the attempts now making in England to raise forces capable of meeting those of Russia. According to this authority, old men of sixty are ordered on board, to make up the full complement of a ship's crew; the recruiters, too, have had the greatest difficulty in beating up volunteers; then, again, children of nine, ten, and twelve years have been coaxed into the naval service; "huge" bounties have been offered to native and foreign mariners, as an inducement for them to enter the Royal Navy; never has it been so difficult to collect sailors in England, and never was there so few seamen as at present.



"THE ORINOCO" LANDING TROOPS AT MALTA.

## TROOPS FOR THE WAR.

(From a Correspondent.)

MALTA, March 13th, 1854.

You will be glad to hear of the safe arrival here of the several steamships, &c., with troops, composing part of the expedition against Russia.

Early in the morning of the 4th inst. the *Orinoco* came in sight from Southampton, nine days out, with 33 officers, part comprising the staff, and 924 men of the Coldstream Guards, all of whom were safely landed at Fort Manoel and Fort Tigne, the same afternoon. (See Sketch). About two p.m., the *Niagara* came in sight from Liverpool, with 31 officers and 878 men, of the 28th Regiment; they safely landed the same afternoon, on the quay of the Victualling-yard, and took up their quarters at Bighi, San Salvador, Zabbar, and Verdala. The *Ripon* arrived about ten p.m., of the 4th; but, owing to a swell setting into the harbour, did not land the troops till Sunday afternoon, the 5th. She brought 26 officers and 602 men, of the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards. They landed, and took up their quarters at Fort Manoel and

of this conference, or "pow-wow," was to obtain permission to make a thorough survey of the route. The Chiefs were at first very averse to the party landing on the Isthmus; but they at length, however, consented that the English party should land, but only for the purpose of reconnoitring the proposed route of the Ship Canal. On the 24th an English and French party were, accordingly, despatched, in addition to a party of Americans, who left the United States sloop-of-war *Cyane*, on the 19th. The result, however, in each case, seems to have been as unfavourable as that which had been previously experienced by Commander Prevost, engaged on the same service on the Pacific side. "Every party that returned," says the *Aspinwall Courier*, "expressed the same opinion, that the route was utterly impracticable."

Another account states:—

The report of the American party is not at all favourable to the prospect for a ship-canal, for they estimated, on a fair calculation, that the elevation of the lowest points over which they passed is about 1000 feet in height. They followed the Caledonia river; and you can judge the size of the stream when the party walked up the bed of the river: all the way.



THE HIGHLANDER CAMP, AT MALTA.



## THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.



WALLACH FAMILY WAITING TO EMBARK FOR WIDDIN.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WIDDIN, March 3, 1854.

Austria, we are told, has declared her intention to consider the passage of the Danube by the Russians, as a declaration of war. She is said also to have declared that the permanent occupation of the Danubian Principalities would be considered in the same light. It is somewhat difficult, whilst in the latitude of Widdin, to conclude, upon such premises as these, what may be the real wish or the intention of Austria. Two points are to be considered, viz., whether Austria does not know that Russia has no intention of crossing the Danube, and whether she is not aware, in urging the second, how difficult it is to define a permanent occupation of the Principalities. As regards the first point, there seems to be but little doubt. The Russians, no doubt, expect, ere long, to see an imposing force arrayed against them on the very ground which they now occupy. Their long line of troops extending from the villages in front of Kalafat to those in front of Matchin, is in imminent danger of being attacked by Turkish, French and English forces. The Russians, so far from being able to cross the Danube, will find it necessary to concentrate themselves in a position which may enable them firmly to resist the efforts of combined Europeans and Turks; and, even when they have done so, their permanent occupation of such a position must depend partly on their own bravery and success, and partly on the attitude of Austria. It is evident that, with Austria threatening on the side of Transylvania, the Turks advancing in front, and French and English troops coming up to assist, the chances of the Russians are very slight indeed. But leaving aside what seems at present to be most doubtful—the hostility of the

Court of Vienna—the movements of the Russians are likely to be defensive rather than offensive ones. It is said, indeed, that, having abandoned the intention of attacking Kalafat, General Gortschakoff, under the advice of General Schilders, has determined for the present to make Slatina his head-quarters on this wing, taking the Aluta as the line to be defended, and holding Karakal as a point of defence in Lesser Wallachia—the communications to be kept open between it and Wallachia Proper by the necessary bridges on the Aluta. I am informed—and a glance at the map confirms the information—that, from the side of the Danube, Karakal cannot be attacked by the enemy, on account of the marshy nature of the ground; whilst, in front, the place may be strengthened with ease by a few earthen works. There is no doubt that the Russian force before Kalafat is much decreased in numbers. The Austrian *Lloyd* of the 14th of February contains a letter in which the forces of the Russians in front of the Turkish lines, on the 7th ult., are described as follows:—"In Poyana, the infantry regiment Katharinenburg, the Jäger regiment Odessa, with two batteries of eight guns, and Cossacks. In Maglavitz, the infantry regiment Tobolek, and the Jäger regiment Ukrain, and two regiments of cavalry." A deserter from the Paskiewitsch Hussars, who gave himself up on the 25th, furnished answers in exact accordance with the letter. He added, however, that the number of batteries in Poyana was three and not two. However this may be, it is now certain that there are scarcely 12,000 Russians around Kalafat. The Turks might overthrow such a force, if they chose to advance; but they have forbore from annoying the enemy, even by reconnoissances, of late; and it is not the part of a non-military man to guess at their rea-

sons for remaining quiet. There is a general complaint of the *nonchalance* of the Commander. Five squadrons of Russians approached Kalafat on the 27th, with two guns; and four Turkish squadrons marched out to meet them. The Russians fired about twenty rounds—killed two men, and the horse of Major O'Reilly, of the 2nd Regiment of Guards—and then retired in good order, without being charged by the Turks; and having only lost two men by a distant fire of musketry. There may be policy in thus holding back, but boldness in appearance is all on the side of the Russians, and timidity on the side of the Turks; and such appearances speedily and disagreeably affect the spirit of an army. It is said that shortly the forces at Kalafat will be increased, and raised to an imposing number; and that Doxoun Pacha, who commands the reserves at Sofia, will be ordered to join. Doxoun Pacha is a General of note, who is said not to brook the command of any lesser officer than Omer Pacha. Some persons here pretend, therefore, that Omer Pacha, now Generalissimo, as you will doubtless have heard from Constantinople, will come to Kalafat to take the command. All these statements are involved in uncertainty at present. I do not believe that Omer Pacha intends coming here. In the meanwhile, the Russians who, as I ventured to predict, have made no attempt to pass over the Danube into Servia, are endeavouring to foment a revolution in that country. Prince Milosch, who owes his wealth to the hostility of Russia, is now using that wealth in league with the Czar to crush the land of his birth. The fate of Cara George, whom he murdered on the ground of intrigues with the Czar against the peace of Servia, has failed to deter him from this course. The son of Cara George is on the throne—the parts are changed—the latter is now the



JUVENILE AMUSEMENTS AT WIDDIN.



friend of independence; the former, the friend of Russia. With the aid of that enormous fortune which he plundered from the Servians, Prince Milosch has raised some regiments, with which he now intends to try his fortune in a civil war. The Russians, in abetting such a revolution, are acting far more wisely for their interests than in quartering their troops upon the people of the Principality. The inland towns of Servia are still peopled with the partisans of Obrenowitsch. Milosch was accustomed to govern with a body-guard of dare-devils, who feared none but him; men who committed many atrocities, and who had become as hateful, by their excesses, as the Turkish janissaries. These men are still *en surveillance* in various parts of the country. The hope of plunder, and the irksomeness of their confinement, render them fit to commence a civil war. Fortunately, the provincial administration of Prince Alexander is strong and energetic. The partisans of Milosch have long since been excluded from employ and pay. The attention of the Ministry has been now directed to the partisans of Russia. The Governors of Departments known to have such leanings have been dismissed the service, and men of tried political sentiments replace them. At Negotin Mr. Davidovitch, of the Independent and Turkish party, has superseded Mr. Yankovitch, who was suspected of intriguing with General Gortschakoff. It is to be hoped that the ex-Minister Guerachan, lately deposed at the request of Russia, will be replaced at the head of the Servian Ministry, and contribute, by his great influence, to preserve that peace which is essentially necessary to the maintenance of neutrality. It is not difficult, indeed, to divine that Austria would see with pleasure a movement of parties in Servia which should give a pretext for her interference. There is at this moment a corps of 25,000 men encamped at Semlin, opposite Belgrade, under the command of Count Coronini. The Count himself arrived at head-quarters some ten or fifteen days ago, and paid a formal visit to Izzet Pacha at Belgrade. The firman brought by Ethem Pacha, confirming the privileges previously possessed by Servia, had recently been promulgated before an attentive and decorous crowd. It had acted as a counterpoise to the late ukase of the Czar, in which that potentate pretended to confirm what he is pleased to call his protectorate. Count Coronini congratulated the Turkish authorities on the quiet and order which continued to mark the progress of affairs in the Principalities, and laboured to persuade the Pacha that the presence of an Austrian corps at the Gates of Belgrade, was but a matter of precaution, destined to protect Servia, if necessary, from the attacks of Russia. Count Coronini afterwards paid a visit in form to Mr. de Fontblancque, our Consul-General at Belgrade, and then returned to Semlin. Whilst such is the attitude of Austria on the frontier of the Saava, the corps of observation of Temeswar, under the orders of General Schlick, has advanced to the frontiers of Wallachia, and no doubt before long an imposing force will be quartered in Orsova and the neighbourhood, which may become as useful for an attack on Servia as for an advance into the disputed Principalities. In addition to these forces, the Austrians have a corps of observation at, or near Fiume, under the orders of the Ban Jellachich, and another at Mahula. I have already said what would be the result of a Russian invasion of Servia. I still maintain that it would create a civil war, of which the end is doubtful. Of this, however, there is a certainty—party hostility would cease before the entrance of an Austrian force. Servia once, during a period of twenty years, felt the yoke of Austria. That state has done her best to impede Servian commerce, and stop Servian products in their passage. She has been vexatious and petty. Servia is more averse to her than to any other nation; and the Servians, if let alone, would prove to her most dangerous enemies.

Prince Gortschakoff, in the meanwhile, has not contented himself with efforts to provoke a civil war in Servia. He has lately forced the boyards to raise regiments for the purpose of fighting against the Turks. The bachi boyard, George Philippesco, received the first-class order of St. Anna from the Emperor, in consequence of his successful efforts in that direction. Perhaps that nobleman will shortly wish he had never received such a mark of favour. He may, however, be saved from the future wrath of the Turks by the intercession of his own son, who is now in Widdin, with other Wallach gentlemen, victims of their desire to give their country a better constitution. It is not now the time perhaps, to give the history of the revolution of Bucharest in 1849. Some of its episodes have been related in previous letters; but when one considers the question of the Danubian Principalities in its political, apart from its religious, point of view, one cannot be persuaded but that the rule of Turkey—now thoroughly roused against Russia—will, if Russia is defeated, be favourable to the development of liberal ideas in Wallachia and Moldavia. The speech which Mr. Cobden made in Manchester, if read by the lights which strike one here, will be found to have been based on ignorance of the political feeling of the mass of the people in Wallachia and Moldavia. The question of these Principalities is no more in reality a question of religious protectorate than the rights and privileges of the Greek and Latin Churches in Turkey are the cause of a declaration of war on the part of the Western Powers. Amongst the greatest grievances of the people of Wallachia that of the priesthood is one. Not in England at the time of Henry VIII., not in Naples at the present day, where the benefices of the clergy absorb an enormous mass of the wealth of the country—in no single instance on record can a priesthood be found more swollen, more exclusive, and more anti-national, than the clergy of the Principalities. Strange it is to say, the clergy of those countries are Russian, although they know that, were they incorporated with the poor priests over whom the Czar exercises spiritual rule, they would be instantly deprived of the wealth and independence which, by his help, they hope to maintain. This clergy, acting upon the lowest and most dependent of the class beneath them, spread the notion that the Russians are with the Wallachs and Moldavians, because they are Christian, and desire to protect their brother Christians against the Turks; but, in the name of common sense, when so much is said about "protection," let us hear what it is that threatens, and what is there to protect. If Wallachia and Moldavia had ever been under the dominion of Turkey, as Bulgaria is and Servia was, there might be some reason in a cry for protection. No doubt, in Bulgaria, the rayahs require that their lot should be improved. They are little better than brutes at present—they have at best the cunning which appertains to the fool. They are a degraded population, and it must take some scores of years to educate, and to restore them to consciousness and dignity. But in Wallachia and Moldavia the case is widely different. When the Turks first conquered the Principalities, they respected the political and religious rights of the people. They sought not to impose the religion of Mahomet, nor to debase the religion of Christ—they asked for tribute, and no more. There are no minarets in the towns of Wallachia. There are no Turkish mosques, whose revenues are derived from Christian contributions. The Turks have not even done for themselves there what we do for our establishment in Ireland—make the people of one religion pay for the support of that of the other. The Christian religion is free, and the Wallachs and Moldavians not rayahs. For Russia to say, therefore, that she is protector of these people on the plea of religion, is absurd. What Russia came to do in 1848, was to protect the boyards from the effects of a peaceful and liberal revolution, to preserve for the clergy their overgrown privileges and swollen benefices, and to deprive the people of those newly-consecrated rights which they enjoyed but for a day, namely, freedom from feudal tenures, and from the services of serfs. What Russia came to do at the present juncture, was to keep the Principalities for herself, that she may have the pleasure, and the profit, of spoiling what the Turks certainly never thought of touching—the savings banks of the towns and villages through-

out the whole of the country under their occupation. What they might further do, were they successful, it is needless here to describe, though by no means difficult to conceive, or to conjecture. It is sufficient to quote a portion of one of General Gortschakoff's general orders, to prove in what spirit the Russian protection is looked upon by the inhabitants of the Principalities—that which he published lately in Lesser Wallachia, enjoining the troops cantoned there, not to stray more than 1000 yards from their camp, and not to hold any intercourse with what he calls, perfidious inhabitants.

But, if this were an insufficient proof, others are at hand to show which side the peasants of Wallachia are most likely to espouse. The village of Chupertchin, situate on the Danube, about two miles below Kalafat, has been alternately occupied of late by the Russians and the Turks. It is a place in which the former might find a convenient resting-place from whence to start against the Turks and their intrenchments. The Turks have determined, therefore, to destroy the place. They offered to the inhabitants the alternative of going with their goods and cattle to the Russians, or to Widdin; and the inhabitants determined at once which course to pursue. They were to be seen yesterday moving with a long line of bullock-carts across the bridge that joins the island to the mainland, and bringing with them their furniture, their goods and chattels, to Widdin. The weather was extremely cold; and the dress of the poor Wallachs seemed ill-suited to resist the blast; but they set up their temporary tents, and strengthened them with reeds, whilst they waited for the ships to take them over.

You may have heard of the disgrace of General Anrep, who commanded the division which was routed at Citate. He was taken into custody at Motzatz, and marched to St. Petersburg. It is said he will be sent to the Caucasus.

The news of an army embarking from England for the assistance of the Turks has been received with the utmost rejoicing; the more so as almost all those to whom the probability of such a thing had been hinted, received the intelligence with incredulity. The presence in Turkey of such excellent and highly-disciplined troops as those of England and France, will doubtless have a salutary effect upon the Ottoman forces, and may induce the officers generally, whether commissioned or non-commissioned, to improve their military knowledge, and insist with greater rigour upon the necessity of order and discipline amongst the men whom they command.

Some heavy cannonading has taken place for two or three days past on the Danube. The Russians have erected a small battery of two guns opposite the village of Florentin, where Selim Pacha's troops are quartered. With these they fire at the ships which carry corn and wood for the use of the Turkish soldiers.

General Guyon has received a new appointment. Achmet Pacha, a brave soldier unacquainted with tactics, having been appointed to supersede Abdi Pacha, has himself been replaced by Mustapha Xarif Pacha, in command of the army of Anatolia. General Guyon, who reorganised that army after the departure of Abdi Pacha, is appointed chief of a permanent council of war, which is to direct all offensive and defensive operations.

(Our Correspondent's letter is accompanied by two characteristic sketches of Wallachian Peasantry.)

#### RUBINI.

In our Journal of last week we briefly announced the death of Rubini, at Bergamo, the principal town of his native province, where he has lived in retirement ever since he quitted the stage. Rubini was born at Romano, a small town of that province; the date of his nativity is not quite certain, but he is generally said to have been born in the year 1795. Being the son of a professor of music, he acquired at an early age some knowledge of the art. The beauty of his voice induced his father to endeavour to bring him forward on the stage; and, after "roughing" it for some time among the small theatres in the north of Italy, where, if he gained little money, he gained practice and experience, he made his way to the theatre of Pavia. His success there led to engagements at Brescia, Venice, and Naples. At this last city he first became known to fame; several operas were written expressly for him; and, before he was five-and-twenty, he was regarded throughout Italy as the first tenor of the day.

Rubini made his first appearance at Paris in 1825. He was then under engagement to Barbaja, the manager of the San Carlo, at Naples. This celebrated *impresario* was in the practice of making engagements for his singers at other theatres, on terms advantageous to himself; and it was on one of these engagements that Rubini appeared at the Paris Italian Opera. His popularity was immense; but Barbaja recalled him at the end of six months. He remained thus bound to Barbaja till the year 1831, during which period he was "farmed out" by the manager, who sent him to Milan, Vienna, and other places, in the same manner as he had been sent to Paris. Of his engagements at that time the lion's share went to Barbaja, who, by these and other means, is said to have amassed an enormous fortune. During that period, however, Rubini reached the summit of his powers and his celebrity. The greatest composers of the day—Bellini and Donizetti—wrote some of their finest operas for him; and the renown of his name spread throughout Europe.

In 1831, when Rubini found himself freed from the fetters of Barbaja, he returned to Paris; and in the same year he appeared for the first time in London. At that time the Théâtre Italien and the King's Theatre (as our Opera-house was then called) were in the same hands—those of Laporte: during whose *regime* the company, after the Paris season, migrated to London, where the season is later. At Paris and London he was received with equal enthusiasm; and, for ten years afterwards, he divided the year between Paris and London, excepting only the year 1838, when he passed the summer at his native place. For several years he was engaged to direct the Imperial Opera of St. Petersburg, where he was in the highest favour with the Court and the aristocracy. In 1842 he visited London for the last time; and, in the same year, he took his leave of the Parisian public; but he retained his situation at St. Petersburg for some years longer. Rubini's professional gains were commensurate with his reputation; and his fortune, at the time of his retirement, has been estimated at £100,000. Since that time he has constantly resided in his native place, enjoying the *otium cum dignitate* in a manner becoming the character of a great artist, maintaining a handsome establishment, and receiving the friends of his former days, who visited him in his retreat, with kind and liberal hospitality.

Rubini was assuredly the most consummate artist of the present century. Those who have heard him only in England cannot estimate from their own observation the full extent of his powers. Though he was under forty when he arrived in this country, his voice had suffered from the wear and tear of his previous brilliant career. Its quality of tone was unimpaired, and it retained its marvellous flexibility. But it had no longer the bloom and freshness of youth; and he had lost, in some measure, the power of sustaining a long-drawn note with ease and firmness. To cover this defect he resorted to the device—which the highest degree of art only could render available—of converting his long notes into florid passages, executed with such inimitable clearness, articulation, and finish, that he found means to transform what was really a blemish into a source of the most exquisite beauties. He was little of an actor, in so far as mere acting was concerned; but yet, without acting, he carried dramatic singing to its highest pitch; being able, by his expressive tones and impassioned declamation, to exert a greater power over the feelings of his audience than has been possessed even by the most accomplished of his successors.

EGYPTIANS AT ST. PETERSBURG.—Letters from Alexandria state that the Egyptian officers of the *Seri-Pervaz* steamer, who had fallen into the hands of the Russians at Sinope, have been allowed to return home. They had been taken to St. Petersburg by order of the Czar, and were very kindly received by him. He conversed with them for some time through an interpreter; and expressed his surprise, since he was not at war with Egypt, to see them fighting against Russia. The officers replied that the war which his Majesty was waging on Turkey was menacing not only for Egypt, but for every other country; and that he ought not to be astonished to see their nation in arms against him for so legitimate a cause. The Czar, nevertheless, presented them to the Empress, and then informed them that they were free to return home, on condition of not bearing arms against Russia for the space of one year.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- THE BALTIC SEA.—Our readers are requested to substitute *Uleborg* for Archangel, in the sentence which ends with the words, "terminating the Gulf of Bothnia." The writer intended to say that Sir C. Napier "would have done something worth notice at all the naval depôts," except Archangel, which, though it has a fleet, is entirely out of the question. A Correspondent is thanked for pointing out the inadvertence. THE SISTERS OF A BRITISH OFFICER should address their letters to Malta. R. F. S. B. Plymouth.—We have not room for your letter. A YOUNG ARTIST should apply to an American bookseller. ZURICH.—We cannot advise you. W. T. M., Edinburgh.—The Parliamentary Blue-books may be had, by order, of any bookseller; or at the office for the sale of Parliamentary Papers, in Great Turnstile, Holborn. PHILO-DRAMATICUS.—See the List of Hackney Carriage Fares authorised by the Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police, and published by C. Knight, 90, Fleet-street. A SUBSCRIBER, Weymouth, should apply to a picture-dealer, who, probably, will expect a fee for such information as our correspondent desires. X. Y. Z.—The East India Company may grant commissions, but cannot grant honours. Esquire is an honour. The Crown cannot grant its honours indirectly, or through a third party (See *Talbot v. Eagle*, "Taunton's Reports," p. 510). The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland confers honours because he is *locus ipso* Regent. A Governor of a colony cannot, because he is only agent of, not in place of, the Monarch. Prince Albert holds a *Levee* as the Queen's agent; but as such he could not make a Peer or a Knight. AULD LANG SYNE.—The only representative now living of the Grays, Lords of Lyndoch, is Mr. William Gray Cooper, of the city of Dublin, whose grandfather, Captain William Gray, was the last of the name who inherited the estate of Lyndoch, which subsequently gave title to the peerage of the gallant General Graham. YOUNG ENGLAND.—The Crest of Palmer of Wingham, Dorney, Parham, and Fandfield, is a demi panther rampant guardant arg., spotted gu. vert, or and az. alternately, flames issuing from the mouth and ears, holding a palm branch ppr. Other families of Palmer bear different crests. W. G., Westminster.—The error in the folios of our last Volume (524 being followed by 549) occurred through the Double No. of Dec. 24 being printed in Paris. MINIM, Peterborough.—We cannot undertake to recommend "the best" makers of musical instruments. V. C.—A periodical work principally on the affairs of Siberia may be heard of at an American publisher's. In 1852, the Rev. J. Despard, of Redland, Bristol, was Hon. Sec. to the Patagonian Missionary Society in Terra del Fuego. A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—A new "Book of Forfeits," and similar games may be had at 86, Fleet-street. H. J. W.—See Sidney's "Three Colonies of Australia," last edition. A SUBSCRIBER in Brussels may exchange his name without any legal procedure; but the Royal authority to do so can only be obtained upon the showing of sufficient ground for the application. J. M., Gosport.—Our Abstract of the Census of 1851 will be ready shortly. J. J. W., Paddington.—We have not room for the Views. FRANCES.—Miss Linwood's Needlework Pictures were sold in 1846, the year after her death. The whole number did not realise £1000. E. F., Hounslow; and S. B., Southport.—We have not room. E. K.—Probably the Report of the Meeting of the British Archaeological Association at Rochester, last year, may furnish the information. S. K. (in a letter, too long for us to print) suggests a plan of employing workhouse girls and boys, dressed in suitable warm clothing; and with capes impervious to rain, to sweep the crossings; each child to have a locked-up tin box, with a slit in the top, so that the money could be put in, but not by any chance extracted. The magistrates at Brighton have, our Correspondent believes, managed this with regard to boys, and she states that many of the little recipients have thus been enabled to find homes and employment in Australia, or have been apprenticed to trades in England. Our Correspondent appears to be aware of "the vested interests" in street crossings. VIATOR.—See Black's "Picturesque Tour through England and Wales." We possess no recent Typographical Dictionary of England and Wales that we can recommend. The articles on the English counties, in the "Penny Cyclopaedia" are valuable. MAYO, Castlebar.—The Ordnance Estimates may be had at the Parliamentary paper-office, Great Turnstile, Holborn. A SUBSCRIBER, Oxford.—To obtain the copy of a will in the Prerogative Will-office, Doctors' Commons, apply to the clerks in the room, and they will state the expense per folio. T. YOUNG, JUN., Wigtown.—See the shilling "Treatise on the Dog," published by Orr and Co., London. HARDINGE HAMILTON.—We do not remember the quotation. A CORRESPONDENT.—In *Sinope*, the accent is upon the second syllable. S. L., Liverpool.—In *Afghanistan*, the accent is upon the penultimate syllable. Mr. Canning, at the time of his death (August 8, 1827), was M.P. for Liverpool. ST. PAUL'S LORRIMORE, NEWINGTON.—We are sorry to hear that this new church is not so near completion as we stated a few weeks since, although the building was commenced three years ago. The parish is poor and populous, and the emergency pressing: a Correspondent states the population at 70,000, with church accommodation for 6000. T. O., Birmingham.—Broughton and Broughton Tower are engraved in a series of Views on the Whitehaven and Furness Junction Railway, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 454. E. P.—The late Dr. Faussett's Collection of Saxon Antiquities has just been purchased by Mr. Mayer, of Liverpool. We are informed that they will be described in a quarto work by a London antiquary; and then they will probably be added to the Liverpool public Museum. J. J. E. R.—Application at the Lord Chamberlain's Office will direct you to the proper source of information. The appointments in the corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, are, in most cases, obtained by purchase. CAPTAIN W.—Arms borne by Downer: Gu. a chev., or, between three peacocks arg. Crest: Two hands conjoined in fesse, winged at the wrist. D. C. L., Newcastle.—Strongly'arm (now Longman), Waterloo-place, Regent-street, London. J. C. E.—The late Mr. Thomas Roughley died and was buried at or near St. Helens, Lancashire, in the year 1825. His sister, Miss Margaret Roughley, survived until the 13th ult. Her executor, Mr. George Copeland, of Hulland, near Ashborne, Derbyshire, has in his possession the Roughley arms, crest, and motto, and numerous other family papers. AN INHABITANT OF EDINBURGH.—Madame Caradori, lately the prima donna of the Edinburgh Opera, is not a relative of the old favourite of the English public, Madame Caradori Allen. She was quite unknown in this country previous to her appearance at Drury-Lane, last summer, when she made a highly favourable impression by her performance in the Italian and German operas, then given at that theatre. She is a German; but, as a singer, belongs more to the Italian than the German school, her style is uniformly that of an accomplished musician, and her powers, as an actress, are very considerable. A lady's age is a delicate question, and we beg to be excused from answering it.—Signor Bettini has appeared at the Royal Italian Opera. A SUBSCRIBER.—A common law student should be well read in Blackstone, have a thorough knowledge of the Law of Evidence, and be conversant with Special Pleading. YESRUN.—Arms of Fairfax: Arg. three bars gemelles gu., over all a lion rampant sa. Crest: A lion passant guardant sa. (sometimes borne on a cap of maintenance). J. A.—Write to the East India House, Leadenhall-street. ARMIGER.—The younger sons of Barons take precedence of Baronets, but Privy Counsellors rank above the younger sons of Viscounts. The younger sons of Dukes, Marquises, and Earls, have higher precedence than either Privy Counsellors or Baronets. STUMPS.—The Queen of Spain had a daughter (the present Princess of the Asturias) living, when the last was born. Her Majesty never had a son. R. S., Wakefield.—We have not room for the column on "Colliery Accidents." A CORRESPONDENT (whose name we cannot decipher), Exeter, is thanked for his suggestion, which, however, if carried out, would form a bulky volume. A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—The line— "Men are but children of a larger growth," is from Dryden's play of "All for Love," Act IV., Scene 1. A. R., Raddington.—The oft-quoted lines, commencing, "The man that hath no music in himself," is from Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," Act V., Scene 1. QUANDARY.—"Mandora" is borne upon the colours of the 90th Light Infantry, in honour of the gallant conduct of the regiment in an action fought in Egypt, near Alexandria, in the vicinity of a village of that name. It occurred during the campaign in which Sir Ralph Abercrombie was killed. For further details we refer "Quandary" to Sir R. Wilson's account of those operations. R. B., Sussex.—Declined. TRIO.—We have received 3s. worth of stamps for Defoe's great-grandson; says our Correspondent, "to express our gratitude for the great amusement his ancestor's work gave us in the days of our childhood." The stamps have been forwarded to Mr. C. Knight, 90, Fleet-street. S. O.—The Earldom of Roscommon is, we believe, extinct. E. P., Dublin.—The three-decker, launched as the *Windsor Castle*, is now the *Duke of Wellington*, flag-ship of Admiral Napier in the Baltic. LANDLUBBER.—No; a frigate is a vessel carrying one row of guns between decks. GREYBEARD.—We have not room for your long letter. DECLINED.—J. J. R.: UNA, Blackheath; S. E. M., Penzance; F. J., Hull. CAMPBELL.—We cannot advise you. DAISY has been misinformed. ALQUIS, Northampton.—Received. FARDUS, West Country.—Received. ACETO-NITRATE is thanked.